

Rhodesians claim they killed 1,200 guerrillas in Mozambique raids

Rhodesian Government sources have denied reports that women and children were killed deliberately during raids by security forces on two guerrilla camps in Mozambique last week. In the

first confirmation of the raids, military headquarters said that more than 1,200 guerrillas had been killed and one Rhodesian soldier had died. There was no contact with Mozambican forces

Overworked BAOR asks for extra 2,500 men

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The British Army of the Rhine has sent an urgent request to the Ministry of Defence for 2,500 more men to help to meet its peacetime commitments. An overall increase in the size of the Army might be needed to solve the problem.

The extra manpower is required to overcome difficulties of "overstretch" resulting from restructuring of the Army after the Government's 1974-75 Defence Review.

Manpower cuts of 16,000 have led to a 13 per cent increase in the ratio of weapons to troops. BAOR commanders are finding that they do not have enough men to do all the work.

The shortages are felt most acutely in regiments of the Royal Artillery and of the Royal Armoured Corps, in which the number of tanks has been increased by more than 50 per cent while the number of men has gone down. The Royal Engineers, Royal Signals and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers are also affected. One officer spoke of men doing a 70-hour week to meet the extra workload.

In Royal Artillery air defence regiments, a Radar missile team which needs seven men in wartime is making do with only five, which allows little opportunity for men to be away on courses or leave.

BAOR sources say the shortages would not be felt so badly in wartime, because many of the administrative functions involved in running a peacetime barracks would be dropped. However, many units now need an additional 30 men to perform all the necessary tasks.

One officer explained: "We are down to the bare minimum. We simply have no left on the bones to draw upon when anyone is away."

Ironically, BAOR's overall size was left untouched at 55,000 after the defence cuts, because this is the minimum that Britain is committed to maintain. It is the rise in the number of weapons in the "teeth" arms regiments that has caused the present crisis.

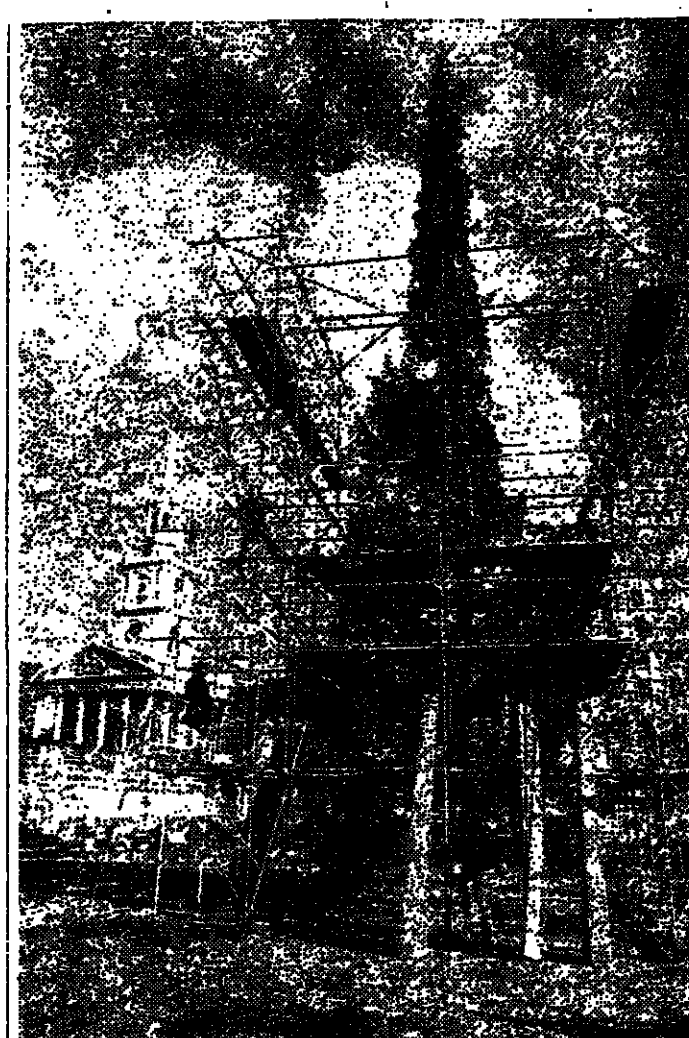
Ideally, the Army would like to see an additional 2,500 men under the increases in public spending expected from the Government next spring. The Ministry of Defence will be disappointed if it does not receive its share.

An alternative would be to find more men from Army units in Britain and elsewhere, but this would also "draw on the bones" and such a course would be unpopular with United Kingdom Land Forces headquarters near Salisbury.

Another difficulty is that increasing the size of BAOR would mean a rise in Britain's foreign exchange costs, which would be still more unpopular with the Treasury.

BAOR, therefore, might have to lose some of the troops from its newly formed 5th Field Force, the infantry formation which is in a Lancashire town where it is called the Royal Combat Zone behind the four armoured divisions of the 1st British Corps.

However, the feeling in BAOR is that, come what may, the armoured and artillery units of the 1st Corps where the overstretch is being felt most, must be strengthened.



The traditional Christmas tree, 70ft high, presented by the people of Oslo, after it was erected in Trafalgar Square yesterday.

Grunwick strikers are near the bitter end

By Robert Parker

The dispute at the Grunwick film processing laboratories, in north-west London, appears to be virtually over. The strikers are talking about the best way to pull out.

It has been decided that there is no point in further mass picketing, and there is little hope of any other tactics bringing victory.

The strike committee thinks there are only two fair possibilities of success. One is a ruling by the House of Lords in favour of recognition by Grunwick of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex). The second is that members of other unions can be persuaded to cut off services such as electricity and postal deliveries unofficially.

At the end of last year the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) recommended, after a ballot, that Apex should be recognized. But Acas had not been allowed in the factory, and in consequence only the strikers had been allowed. Grunwick contested the recommendation. The matter has since been through the High Court, which found in favour of Acas, and the Court of Appeal, which reversed that decision. Acas appealed to the Lords, and a ruling is expected next week.

Although Mr Roy Graham, general secretary of Apex, has

told the eighty strikers that he is optimistic that the case will go their way, they feel that even so he would be unable to get them reinstated. They were dismissed after working out in August last year. It is thought that Apex may try to find other jobs for the strikers and content itself with recognition inside Grunwick.

If the case in the Lords goes against Acas even that compromise is unlikely. Mr Graham, perhaps preparing himself for that eventuality, last week met Acas to try to arrange a second ballot of the Grunwick workforce on union recognition.

There is little chance of getting services cut off. Last week the TUC General Council decided in effect that no action could be taken. The strikers are bitter about lack of action by Apex and the TUC.

The strikers feel that the union is not on their side. That feeling was reinforced by the suspension of their chairman and secretary for four weeks, together with four hunger-striking who were staging a protest outside TUC headquarters in their cause.

The strike committee has decided that it will not allow the dispute to die a slow death. If it becomes apparent that the two objectives of reinstatement and union recognition are unobtainable, a press conference will be held to declare the dispute at an end.

Thatcher visit to Belgrade

By Our Political Staff

Mrs Thatcher, the Opposition leader, is to make her post-war visit to Belgrade next weekend. The visit was arranged because of President Tito's illness, and Mrs Thatcher is now assured of a meeting with the Yugoslav leader.

Mrs Thatcher, who has in vain sought assurances from Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, that the Belgrade review conference

of the Helsinki accords will not be allowed to conclude while Soviet citizens monitoring the observance of the accords are in the city, will also meet the British delegation to the conference.

She is being accompanied by Sir Fitzroy Maclean, who commanded the British military mission to Marshal Tito's partisans during the Second World War.

Mr Callaghan resists Labour pressure to withdraw EEC poll Bill

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Rejecting left-wing protests about the Government's handling of the European Direct Elections Bill, Mr Callaghan bluntly told a joint meeting of the cabinet and the party's national executive yesterday that the Government would not withdraw the Bill.

To do so, he said, would be to break his personal word to European leaders and mean going back on an international commitment.

He also said that in the free vote on the method of election to the European Parliament he would vote for the regional list system of proportional representation.

After the meeting, held at 10 Downing Street, the embattled positions of the national executive, representing the party conference's opposition to the election and a divided Government wanting to get the Bill through, seemed to have changed hardly at all.

The Prime Minister proposed that there should be a joint Cabinet-NEC working party that would produce a statement about the reform of the EEC on which both party and Government could agree. That would then be included in the party's manifesto at the next general election.

But, as Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the party, pointed out later, the first task of the NEC when it meets on December 14 will be to decide whether the party will contest the direct elections if the Bill, without a majority of Labour MPs voting for it, passes through Parliament.

That issue, rather than the setting up of the joint working party, appeared to be the one bothering him. We could say that we will not fight," he said.

"If we did that, we would in any view get the worst of both worlds."

"If we were to stand aside there would be a ragbag of politicians who would fight. Some would be to become members of the party who would have organizations to support them financially, with people to work for them."

"We would be on the sidelines and this party would find itself split between the Labour Party and the Labour Party as you and I know it. Surely common sense has got to prevail somewhere?"

There was obviously no prospect of the Government withdrawing the Bill after what the Prime Minister had said; if the NEC decided to fight the elections, the party could speedily make arrangements for the selection of candidates and so on. There was no list of candidates yet.

With rumours that the salaries of the Ministers would be £20,000 and £25,000 there will not be a shortage of applicants," he forecast.

Mr Hayward said that he and Mr Reginald Underhill, the national agent, had recommended that the European elections should be held on the same day as the next general election, "and that will not be next May," he added.

"We propose such a course because we think there will be a very low poll for the European elections. As I go around the country I do not see exactly setting people alight."

"If the polling were on the same day as the general election there would be a better chance of setting a good turnout. The elections would be able to vote for Westminster and also for their European candidates."

Continued on page 2, col 2

Firemen's leaders at No 10 today

By Donald MacIntyre
Labour Reporter

The Prime Minister will meet the Fire Brigades Union executive at 10 Downing Street this morning as the firemen's strike enters its fifteenth day. There were no signs that the meeting, sought yesterday by the union, will open the way to an early settlement on the firemen's 30 per cent pay claim.

Mr Terence Parry, the union's general secretary, said after yesterday's executive meeting, which was adjourned until today: "This does not mean anything other than that we are going to see the Prime Minister to discuss the dispute with him."

The talks with Mr Callaghan will include all 16 rank-and-file lay members of the executive together with Mr Parry and the union's other four national officers.

Government officials have cordoned off the area around No 10, and Mr Callaghan has no intention of authorizing any immediate pay offer above the 10 per cent offered by the local authority employers.

Union executive members reported at yesterday's London meeting that there had been no significant breaks in the

solidarity of the 30,000 full-time firemen.

Mr Parry said that nearly a million signatures collected from the public had been handed in at Downing Street during the demonstration organized by the union's London region. He estimated that "several million" people throughout the country have signed petitions in support of the action.

Our Political Editor writes: The Prime Minister responded with alacrity last night to the firemen's request for a meeting. It will be the first time that he has met any of the union executive since the strike began and the first time he has decided, or been asked, to intervene in a national strike.

Mr Rees, Home Secretary, will also be at today's meeting. The Prime Minister was apparently surprised by the firemen's request from Mr Parry, which was received by a private secretary. It was conveyed to Mr Callaghan at a private meeting with Mr Steel, the Liberal leader.

Earlier in Whitehall there had been strong doubts over the Prime Minister's refusal to make the firemen a new offer.

Five deaths, page 2
Leading article, page 15

Deaths of children 'regrettable'

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Nov 28

News agency reports that the Rhodesian security forces deliberately killed women and children during raids last week on two guerrilla camps in Mozambique were denied to-night by Government sources.

Military headquarters earlier confirmed that the raids had taken place and said that more than 1,200 guerrillas had been killed. Rhodesian casualties were said to have been one white soldier killed and eight wounded.

Denying the deliberate killing of women and children, one Government source said: "The two camps were clearly defined as terrorist military bases and as such were attacked by our forces. If women and children were in fact in the camps and were killed it is regrettable. But we are at war and civilians, particularly women and children, should not be in such camps."

Last week's operation was Rhodesia's most successful of the five-year war. The forces first struck last Wednesday at the main operational headquarters of the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army, which supports Mr Robert Mugabe, in an area 55 miles inside Mozambique and about 12 miles north of the town

of Chimio. They returned to Rhodesian territory at dusk on Thursday. No contact was made with Mozambique troops.

The second strike was made on Saturday, against the Tembe base camp, about 125 miles from the border and north-east of the Babosa dam. Again, there was no contact with Mozambican forces and all Rhodesian troops and aircraft were safely back inside Rhodesia by 3 pm on Sunday.

The military communiqué said the raids were made in the interests of self defence and the aims of the ground and air attacks were all successfully achieved.

Official figures put the guerrilla deaths at 1,200, but unofficial estimates have been as high as 2,000. Many others were wounded and large quantities of weapons, vehicles, ammunition, fuel, buildings and documents were destroyed.

Mr Roger Hawkins, the War Minister, said the raids had been made because there had been a big buildup of guerrilla forces and increased guerrilla incursions into Rhodesia. He described the operation as "an outstanding success". He said Rhodesia had been aware for some time of a considerable increase in trained guerrillas at base camps in Mozambique of Mr Mugabe's forces.

"It had also become clear that terrorist incursions were increasing and that as usual their attacks were being directed mainly at black civilians in the tribal trust lands", he said.

Mr Hawkins continued: "During the past two months more than 100 black civilians have been murdered by terrorists. Accordingly, it was essential to take action in self defence in the interests of the lives of all Rhodesians and to protect national integrity."

He said it had not been anticipated that any contact would be made with Mozambican forces and this had proved to be the case. He also congratulated the Rhodesian security forces on their planning and execution of the raids.

Coming as they do just before constitutional talks in Salisbury—probably later this week—the raids have boosted Rhodesian morale and in turn placed Mr Smith, the Prime Minister, in a powerful position at the conference table. He will be able to state unquestionably that he has military strength and has not been driven to find an internal settlement because of any weakness on the battlefield.

Eyewitness tells of airborne attack

From Derek Ingram
Gemin News Service

Chimoio, Mozambique, Nov 28
Mozambican soldiers buried nearly 100 children, aged between 11 and 14, in a mass grave 18 miles from here on Saturday. They were among the hundreds of Zimbabweans killed in the Rhodesian airborne strike that destroyed a guerrilla base of Zanu, the wing of the Patriotic Front led by Mr Robert Mugabe.

About 2,500 people, many of them women, were in the camp at the time of the attack. Because of the poor communications in the area the full extent of the action is only now becoming clear. Even in Chimoio (formerly Vila Pery), the capital of Manica province, which lies in full view of the camp, details are only now becoming known.

Wounded Zimbabweans (Rhodesian nationalists) are still wandering out of the bush into Chimoio and by yesterday about 600 had been treated at the town's small hospital while another 70 more severely wounded had been evacuated to Beira.

I arrived in Chimoio on the morning of the attack—last Wednesday. The town is slightly elevated from the surrounding flat bush country, and from its streets the sound of aircraft and the crunch of bombing could be heard. Plumes of smoke rose into the air over a wide area.

Hunter fighters, Canberra bombers and helicopters were used. Some of the white and black Rhodesian attackers drop-

ped by parachute and stayed on the ground overnight.

The strike was in an area that contains a complex of camps—the two main ones being a military camp for about 2,500 guerrillas and a refugee camp about 35 miles away at Doerol. The refugee camp was not touched: its 18,000 inhabitants scattered into the bush on instructions from their commanders. But the guerrilla camp was wrecked.

The fact that the refugee camp was left alone may indicate that the Smith regime has learnt that mass killing of civilians such as took place in the strike at Nymanya last year, does it great harm internationally.

The Chimoio strike appears to have been the second such attack by the Rhodesians in recent months. Reports say that about 500 guerrillas were killed two months ago in a camp destroyed in the Vumba mountains.

This new attack poses questions about the lack of protection and organization of the Zanu guerrillas. It was believed to be less well run than Mr Mugabe's army.

The camp seems to have been a sitting duck. It had only one anti-aircraft gun and one machine gun. Survivors said they had not been told how to cope with an attack and they were taken totally by surprise. No trenches had been dug.

The town of Chimoio remained calm throughout and Rhodesian aircraft avoided flying over it.

streets but Mozambican soldiers told them to go back into their houses and offices and to carry on their daily routine as usual. When I arrived about five hours after the start of the attack the only abnormal feature was the number of troops on duty in the streets and at key points.

The Mozambican Army coped with the emergency with impressive efficiency, even with a touch of spontaneity. However, towards the end of the second day of the attack Mozambican patrols came under attack from Rhodesian aircraft as they inched forward to the camp to find out what had happened. They had to advance warily because of mines the Rhodesians had laid.

The sequence of events on the morning of the attack seems to have been as follows. At about 7.30 am the men in the camp were beginning their routine drilling and bayonet practice. Aircraft were seldom heard in the area. Civil aircraft avoid the Mugabed zone, in which the camp is situated, and when a jet came over, the men thought it was a stray airliner. But when it dived low and other forces began dropping bombs, everyone knew differently.

Mr Ngarir Mutumbanzira, a guerrilla, remembered the chaos of those moments. Sitting on a hospital bench, his broken arm in a splint, he told me: "Within a few seconds planes were moving about in the air and we were all scared. We couldn't think what to do quickly except to run away."

Continued on page 6, col 5

Banks split on interest rates

After last week's 2 point rise in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate to 10 per cent, National Westminster announced an increase of 1½ per cent to 7½ per cent in base lending rate which was later followed by a 1 point rise to 7 per cent by Lloyds. The rates reflect sharp differences of opinion over the short-term outlook.

New Japanese Cabinet

Mr Takeo Fukuda, the Japanese Prime Minister, dismissed his Cabinet and appointed a new team of ministers that included economic experts to deal with the economic, political and diplomatic problems caused by Japan's huge trade surplus.

Worker directors

Disagreement over the allocation of worker-director seats on the main Post Office board is dogging the Government's first practical experiment in worker-participation, which is due to begin in a month.

Mr Gierak to see Pope

Mr Edward Gierak, the Polish Communist Party leader, arrived in Rome for a visit during which he will call on the Pope. It will be the first time that a Polish communist leader has been to the Vatican.

Refuge ship crisis

Australia has sent a Navy patrol boat to intercept a trawler heading for Darwin with 175 Vietnamese refugees on board. Indonesia refused them permission to land when they arrived at Surabaya last Tuesday.

Unmarried woman's rights upheld

By a majority, the Court of Appeal has decided that an unmarried woman has the same right as a wife to expel a violent man from her home, even if he has some property rights in it. The decision overturned two previous rulings by the Court of Appeal.

Political education

Courses in political education for all pupils in secondary schools, including instruction in the skills needed for direct action, are urged in a report by a research unit at York University.

Carter homestead site

Debre's Pezage has tarnished its image in the United States by a blunder in its search for President Carter's roots. The firm has had to admit that an announcement that the first Carter homestead site had been found was "misleading".

Typoid: A boy who was a passenger on a cruise to North Africa is in a Lancashire hospital with typhoid

Help for disabled: The running costs of an electrically operated wheelchair and other special aids needed by a disabled woman can be met by supplementary benefit payments, the High Court ruled 2.

Missing baronet: Sir Rupert Mackeson, the baronet, is missing from his London home since October, is not being sheltered by friends 3.

Horn of Africa: Ethiopia is reported to be poised for a counter-attack against the Somali forces attacking Hargeisa 7.

Shipyard peace move

The 1,700 outfitting workers at Swan Hunter's Tyneside yard who have been operating an overtime ban for three months will be recommended today to lift the ban in order to serve a £52m contract, part of the £115m shipbuilding deal with Poland.

Leader page 15
Letters: On Servicemen's pay, from Brigadier Sheffield Bidwell, and others; on exchange control, from Mr John Phillimore

Leading articles: The firemen's strike; Mr Gierak in Rome; The new Japanese Cabinet

Features, pages 8 and 14
Philip Howard talks to Edward Heath about his book, Bernard Levin in the wilderness; a Yugoslav priest; Christopher Walker looks at organized crime and the Ulster terrorists; Social focus by Gerald Russell

Arts, page 9
Sheridan Morley interviews Polly Adams; Alan Coren on Silver Blaze (ITV); Judith Crickbank on A Good Night's Sleep (Adelphi Theatre); Paul Overy on the Leonardo exhibition at Burlington House

Obituary, page 16
Professor W. H. McMenamy; Miss Winifred A. Coats

Sport, pages 12 and 13
Cricket: Mr Packer's plans for floodlit matches; Football: Norman Fox on Liverpool's attitude to League Cup; FA Cup second round draw; Rugby Union: Peter West looks at Cambridge's team for the university match; Business News, pages 17-23

Stock markets: There was no follow-through of Friday's rally and the FT index closed 25 down at 464.5

Financial Editor: Implications of the Hattersley review; RIZ's uranium maze; Pious: Funding in the Euromarket

Business Features: Peter Waymark reports on the development of the Russian car industry; Olive Schindler on the EEC's draft directive which has angered British commercial agents; Business Diary: City of London, referees are bearish about the cost of keeping elephants



Mr Meir Rosenne, left, and Dr Eli Ben Elissar.

Israel names delegates to Cairo talks

From Moshe Brilliant
Jerusalem, Nov 28

Israel today named two civil servants as delegates to the Cairo conference opening on December 3 which Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, said marked the opening of "a face to face negotiations with our neighbours for a true peace."

Speaking in the Knesset, Mr Begin said the letter of invitation from the acting Foreign Minister of Egypt to Mr Moshe Dayan, the Foreign Minister of Israel, was handed to the United Nations opposite number.

Mr Begin said the two men "hook hands. It was the first time an Egyptian delegate to the United Nations had acknowledged the presence of Israel."

that, in consultation with Mr Dayan, who is now in Germany, it had been agreed that the Israeli representatives will be Dr Eli Ben Elissar, Director-General of the Prime Minister's office, and Mr Meir Rosenne, legal adviser to the Foreign Ministry.

Israel's acceptance of the invitation was sent through its representative at the United Nations, Mr Begin said.

Quoting from the Egyptian letter, Mr Begin said the conference was to be an informal meeting of the parties to the Middle East dispute as well as the Soviet and American co-chairmen of the Geneva peace conference and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Mr Begin reported to the House on President Sadat's mission to Jerusalem but shed no light on what was on in the private talks. He gently chided deputies who had made public statements urging the Government to be forthcoming in the negotiations with Egypt. "This is an important hour," he said. "Don't compete in making concessions."

Mission to heal Arab rift, page 6

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HOME NEWS

Political action should be included in school courses, report urges

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Courses in political education should be made part of a common core or protected part of the curriculum for all pupils in secondary schools, the political education research unit at York University says in a draft report of a three-year research project.

Political education, it says, should include a study of institutions, parties, political concepts, issues of national and everyday life, and the skills necessary to take political action.

Political action, it suggests, might be anything from writing a letter to an MP, or speaking at a public meeting, to organising a petition, forming a pressure group, or taking other or direct action.

The report acknowledges the need to reassure the public about the danger of the indoctrination of children by teachers with strong political views or bias, and remove the fear that, for example, long-haired Marxist teachers would be leading children into revolution on the streets.

Living in a pluralistic society, with many sources of information available, and influenced by various agencies of political socialisation such as the family, the media, and still, for some the Church, as well as the school, teachers are relatively

impoor to transmit values to their students, it says. Instances of charismatic political education teachers, such as Chris Searle, were remarkable for their rarity.

In a detailed study of six schools providing political education, the report found that teachers were greatly worried about the possibility of the transmission of their own political values and ideologies to their pupils.

Interviews with the pupils, however, showed that they had a clear and accurate view of the value position of the teacher, made allowances for it, and did not see it as a difficulty. Teachers were therefore worrying unnecessarily when worrying whether to make their

political views explicit to the pupils.

The report suggests that there is a need for further empirical research into the questions concerning perception, bias, and indoctrination, if only to lay those ghosts.

Provided a teacher had the right approach to "political literacy", which involved being aware of and communicating the alternatives to his own political position, having a respect for the truth and reason, showing tolerance and fairness to different points of view, there should be no danger, the unit found.

The unit was set up in 1974 with a £20,000 grant from the Nuffield Foundation under Professor Ian Lister, head of the department of education at York University, to study the political learning of young people in schools and colleges in order to discover appropriate ways of assessing political learning, and to identify the possibilities and the limitations of formal programmes of political education.

A further £20,000 was given by the foundation at the same time to finance a twin research project, under Professor Bernard Crick, head of the department of politics and sociology at Birkbeck College, London, to encourage the development of political education in schools and to propose suitable syllabuses.

Although the York unit would like to see political education courses provided in all secondary schools and further education colleges, it does not feel that a rapid spread of such courses is possible given the shortage of suitably trained teachers.

Suitable training should not simply be training in politics, but a combination of learning how to identify, understand and analyse political issues and concepts, and how to organise and deliver a lesson so as to actively involve most students in discussion and debate and encourage the creation of a "democratic classroom".

The report calls for a national study of the provision of political education in schools.

Work starts on £1m Irish Centre extension

By Philip Howard

The Irish Centre in Camden, London, the spiritual and social home from home for Irish men and women in the west-end of London, yesterday launched an ambitious scheme for a film extension.

Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, and Mr. Thomas O. Flaherty, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, laid the first three bricks under the critical eyes of an expert audience. The rest of the work will be done more expeditiously by the contractor, J. Murphy and Sons, which means that it will be finished by June, 1979.

The centre was founded as an oasis of Irishness 22 years ago in two rambling Victorian terrace houses. After the war there was plenty of work, particularly on the building sites, and the Irish streamed over at a rate of up to a thousand a week. They had nowhere to go for companionship after a dusty day on the building site except the public house. In parts of London such as Kilburn and Camden, towns they acquired a reputation for booze, belligerence, ignorance, and crime.

The loneliness of the London Irish was captured by John Keats, the playwright, who was for a time an emigrant to England.

"Oh take him down to Crickle-



Mr. O. H. Flaherty and Cardinal Hume laying the first bricks yesterday for the extension to the Irish Centre.

wood, to mortar, bricks, and lime. And let him rot in Cricklewood until he serves his time. Oh Cricklewood, Oh Cricklewood, you stole my youth away.

For I was young and innocent but you were old and grey. In 1955 a group of Irish priests and laity, concerned about the Irish adrift in London, opened the Irish Centre. It was intended to provide temporary lodging for the homeless, jobs for the unemployed, social life

for the homesick, and personal help. Since then the centre has saved 30,000 Irish from shipwreck in the big city, and more than 2,500 a week come for dinner, dances, céilidhs, Guinness, and other lifelines to home. A present 135 young Irish men and women, who have nowhere else to stay, are being put up at the centre. But the buildings have decayed, while the work has increased.

The launching of the extension was a pleasantly Irish occasion. The centre was full of nuns, priests, and chunky men with heavy hands, all talking nineteen to the dozen. The bakers were doing a roaring trade from 10.30 am onwards.

Cardinal Hume said: "Much of the criticism of the Irish is anachronistic caricature, which does not serve to promote good community relations. A million pounds is a lot of money, but Catholics have never been short of generosity when they see the need."

The case was adjourned until January to give Mr. Whittisname time to prepare his defence.

Name game aim to halt legal campaign

From Our Correspondent
Worcester

A man accused by the Law Society of house purchase conveyancing work while unqualified to do so told Worcester magistrates yesterday that he had changed his surname by deed poll to Whittisname as a protest against the society's "Don't trust Whittisname" advertising campaign.

After the case he said he was planning to ask the Society to cancel the campaign so that it would not defame him.

Mr. Francis Reynolds, aged 45, a law lecturer, of Hylton Road, Worcester, revealed his change of name after pleading not guilty to the six summonses of carrying out conveyancing work when he was not a qualified solicitor. He was addressed as Mr. Whittisname by the magistrates and court officials during the rest of the hearing.

He told the court: "No doubt the bench has been offended by the advertising campaign mounted by the Law Society. The society believes that, like the Pope, it is in purpose of these proceedings is for it to wage a war of attrition against me."

The case was adjourned until January to give Mr. Whittisname time to prepare his defence.

Jail for youth leader

Judge McDermott was told at Middlesex Crown Court yesterday that Everton George Beckford, aged 22, twice found guilty of robbery and on a suspended two-year sentence for attempted cheque fraud, was employed as a leader at a Stoke Newington youth hostel.

Mr. Beckford, of Upper Clapton Road, Hackney, was jailed for nine months for dishonestly taking two colour television sets. The two-year sentence is to remain suspended for another two years.

In brief

Petition to save opera house

Copies of a petition with more than 10,000 signatures calling on Greater Manchester Council and the Arts Council to save the Manchester Opera House will be presented to officials of the two councils today (our Theatre Reporter writes).

The Opera House and the Palace Theatre, Manchester, are threatened with closure early in the new year.

Algarve body named

An inquest was opened in Westminster yesterday and adjourned until January 11 on Mr. Richard James Dorey Harrison, aged 25, of Penance, whose body was found in the sea off Algarve, Portugal, more than a month ago.

Mayor's wife robbed

Mrs. Dawn Matheson, wife of the Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, was beaten up in her home at Warwick Square, Westminster, yesterday and robbed of jewellery and silverware valued at £3,300.

Ambulances return

Merseyside ambulance services operated to schedule yesterday after a dispute over bonus payments, which arose from an overtime ban and ended in a 13-hour strike before settlement was agreed last Friday.

£48,000 damages

Mrs. Margaret Lewis, aged 32, of Merthyr Tydfil, whose husband was killed when his bulldozer toppled over the edge of an open-cast mine roadway in 1970, was awarded £48,044 damages in the High Court, London, yesterday.

Post-mortem on bear

Officials carried out a post-mortem examination yesterday at Bristol zoo to try to find out how Sebastian, aged 19 years, the first male polar bear born in Britain, died.

Office strike

About 150 staff at the social security office at Wigan, Greater Manchester held a one-day strike yesterday over the dismissal of a colleague.

Scottish land plan criticized

The Scottish Landowners' Federation replied yesterday to recent calls for land nationalization in Scotland. It said in a statement that the sole result of public ownership of agricultural land would be an enormous bill for the nation, more bureaucracy, the loss of revenue from capital taxation on private holdings and higher food prices.

Members of the federation own more than four fifths of rural land in Scotland. The statement said the landlord-tenant system was the foundation on which the British agricultural industry had produced food efficiently. It was also the best way of enabling farmers to enter the industry since it did not require them to buy and stock land.

The Duke of Atholl, chairman of the federation, said the cost of a small arable farm stock was more than £500,000. The return on let land after all charges had been paid and expenses met was only 2 per cent. It was therefore more profitable for a man to farm his own land, which accounted for the trend towards owner-occupation.

A recent book on Scottish land ownership and policy statements by the Scottish National Party and the breakaway Scottish Labour Party all favour land nationalization.

Police cover-up

Women in the South Yorkshire police force are being issued with trousers. They were the target for wolf whistles when they climbed in skirts over walls or out of cars.

Council backs £1-a-house idea for double-glazing

By Our Local Government
Correspondent

A simple method of double-glazing a house for less than £1 has impressed Hammersmith Borough Council so much that it launched a campaign yesterday to publicize the idea.

The council believes it can save fuel costs and help old people to avoid the danger of hypothermia. The key to the method, developed by Mr. Geoffrey Horsley, a scientist at Harwell Research Laboratories, is a transparent food-wrapping material sold by supermarkets and grocers, usually in rolls 12 inches wide.

He tested the idea for a year before announcing that he had successfully double-glazed a fire-bedroom house for £1. The transparent film is pressed against window frames, to which it adheres. A 1-inch gap between window and film is

Sir Rupert Mackeson 'not being sheltered'

Sir Rupert Mackeson, the missing baronet, is not being sheltered by his aristocratic friends, Lord Normanton said yesterday. Sir Rupert, of the missing family, disappeared in October from his home in Portman Square, near Marble Arch, London.

He is believed to have debts up to £100,000 and the police were seeking to interview him in connection with complaints about his holiday company. They were considering a theory that he might have been hidden by influential and wealthy friends.

Lord Normanton, who was best man at Sir Rupert's wedding to Miss Camille Keith, dismissed the theory. "I have not seen him for years", he said, "and as I keep in touch with his former friends I know they have not seen him."

Detectives are appealing for people who bought £3 tickets to a lecture next week in support of the "National Arts Council Fund" to come forward.

Scotland Yard said: "We have established that the fund does not exist and the lecture will not take place. A number of tickets are thought to have been sold, and we think Sir Rupert can help us."

Sir Rupert's mother, Althea Lady Mackeson, is understood to be suing him for the return of cash and jewellery totalling about £13,000.

His disappearance was reported after several groups of holidaymakers had complained that his Mayfair travel agency had suddenly closed without issuing tickets for paid tours.

Detectives are anxious to trace anyone who has had dealings with the company, Master Classes, of Shepherd Street and Shepherd Market. They know of 25 members of the Art and Creative Society of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, who were unable to get into town with the company after having paid £3,500 for a four-day visit to Leningrad.

Mr. John Kenworthy-Browne, a writer and lecturer, who led some of Sir Rupert's culture tours, said: "I never believed he could be making money, but friends assured me he was. I thought he cut things too fine."

"Everything was the best. He spent a fortune on advertising and printing and ran two offices. I could never see how he could possibly make a profit."

Another business associate disclosed that Sir Rupert had run into difficulties organising lectures in support of the National Art Collections Fund. He said: "He had to cancel some lectures at the last minute and two of the lecturers were enormously upset. I understand something went very seriously wrong."

Scotland Yard said Sir Rupert was asked to organise a lecture on Rubens for the fund, which paid money for tickets. "We have not yet interviewed anyone in connection with this, so we do not know how much is involved."

Pleas by two struck-off doctors fail

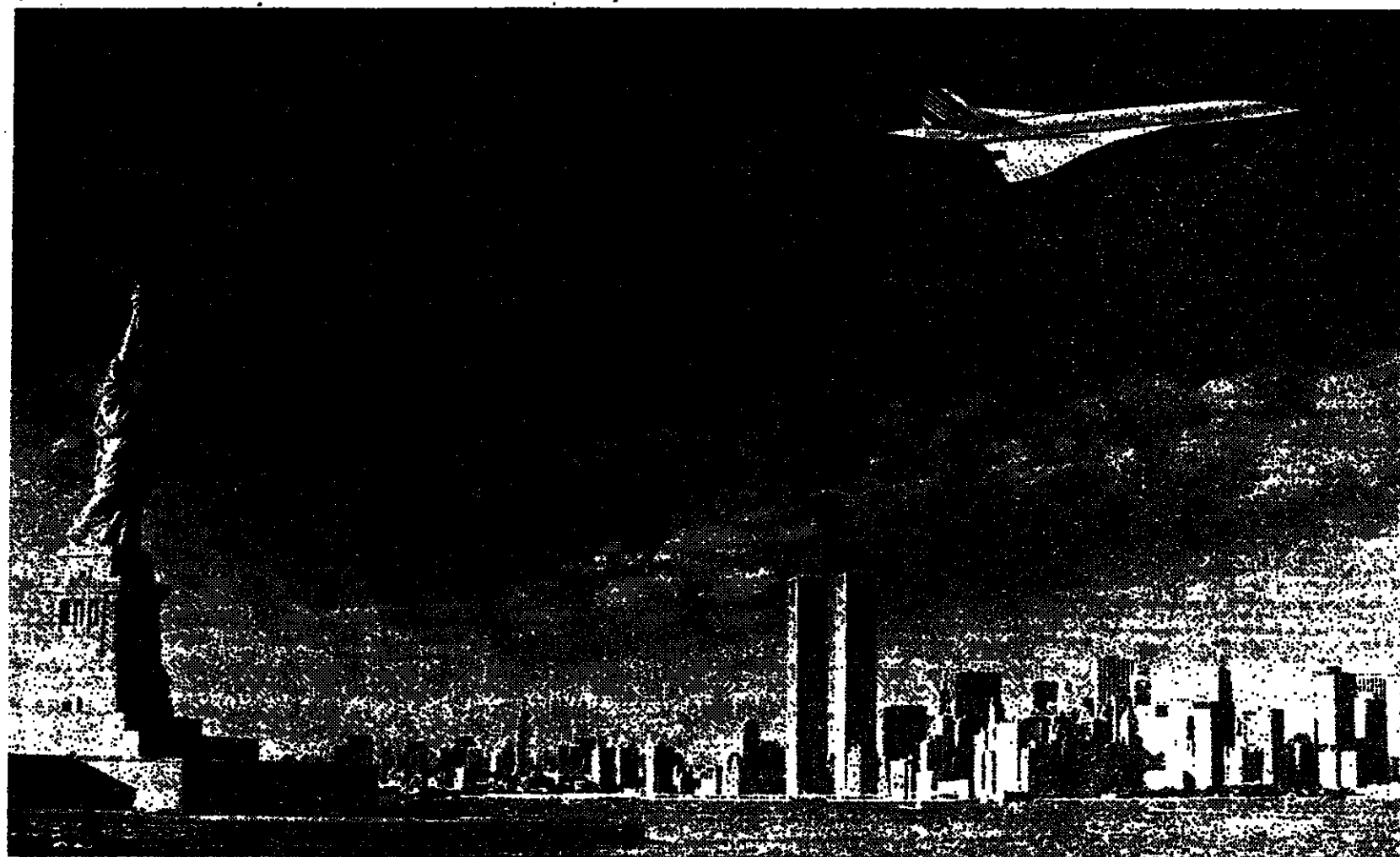
Deb Narayan, a former doctor, released from prison earlier this year, had his application to resume practice rejected yesterday by the disciplinary Committee of the General Medical Council. Dr Narayan, formerly practising in Standon Street East, Coventry, was suspended from the medical register in July last year and his name was erased two months later by the committee.

He had been given a two-month prison sentence on a drink-and-driving charge.

The committee also decided not to restore the name of Philip Matthews Goodrich, now in Christchurch, New Zealand, to the medical register in England. He was fined £800 in March, 1974, for obtaining drugs by deception, unlawfully possessing them and failing to keep a register.

One of the main difficulties is the fact that the minister for sport, Mr. Howell, is in the Department of the Environment, so the Department of Education and Science, which should be helping to create greater participation in sport by the young, say it is nothing to do with them, but a matter for the environment department. The young fall between two stools."

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
Highly Important Old Master Drawings. The Properties of Colonel William Stirling, removed from Keir House, Dunblane, Scotland. The late Colonel Charles Brodiehurst, The late Baron von Zuylen and others. Catalogue (134 illustrations, including 1 in colour) £4.50.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 at 10.30 a.m.
Clocks, Skeleton Clocks, Watches and Barometers. Catalogue (16 plates) 75p.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 and THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 at 10.30 a.m. on both days
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Important English Furniture and Objects of Art. The Properties of The Countess de Chambrun, Mrs. David Frederick Guggenheim, The Dowager Lady Noble, J.P., The late Lt.-Col. Norman Colville, M.C., P.S.A., The late Prince Litter, C.B.E., The late Mrs. Nora Prince-Litter and others. Catalogue (64 plates, including 3 in colour) £2.30.

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Finest and Rarest Wines and Collectors' Pieces. Catalogue (16 plates) 45p.

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Important Old Master Pictures. The Properties of Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison, K.T., Madwin Drummond, Esq., The Earl of Easington, K.T., M.C., T.D., Colonel William Stirling, removed from Keir House, Dunblane, Scotland, The late Colonel Charles Brodiehurst, The late Mrs. Nora Prince-Litter, Bakewell Parish Church and others. Catalogue (118 illustrations, including 5 in colour) £4.50.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
Fine Chinese Export Porcelain and Works of Art. The Properties of Colonel William Stirling, removed from Keir House, Dunblane, Scotland, The late Mrs. Nora Prince-Litter and others. Catalogue (46 plates, including 1 in colour) £1.60.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6 at 11 a.m.
Impressionist and Modern Paintings and Sculpture. Catalogue (71 illustrations, including 44 in colour) £3.80.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6 at 2.30 p.m.
Impressionist and Modern Drawings and Watercolours. Catalogue (61 illustrations, including 8 in colour) £2.80.

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English and Continental Porcelain. Catalogue £3.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 at 10.30 a.m.
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MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 at 10.30 a.m.
Old and Modern Silver.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 at 2 p.m.
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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6 at 10.30 a.m.
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INTEREST

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HOME NEWS

Court upholds right of unmarried woman to evict her partner

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Unmarried women have the same right as wives to expel violent men from their homes under the Domestic Violence and Matrimonial Proceedings Act, 1976, the Court of Appeal decided yesterday by a majority verdict. The decision overturned a previous ruling of the House of Lords.

The previous judgments ruled that the property rights of the man prevailed over the rights of cohabitants to exclude them, even where they jointly owned or rented the property. The Court of Appeal, however, gave leave to appeal to the House of Lords against its decision and an appeal is expected soon.

That still leaves the interpretation of the Act unclear, and Miss Josephine Richardson, Labour MP for Barking and architect of the new law, promised yesterday to press for the introduction of amending legislation if the Lords overrule the Court of Appeal.

"If the House of Lords take the opposite view, I will immediately seek to get amending legislation to clarify the Act in the way that I intended and I believe Parliament intended," she said. "The intention always was that cohabiting couples should have the same rights as married couples to exclude violent partners."

She added that she saw the decision as a "blow for freedom" in that it made clear that the courts no longer see women as the chattels of their men, and it gave cohabiting couples more rights than they had previously enjoyed.

Miss Jennifer Davis, aged 21, whose appeal was allowed yesterday, is staying in the battered wife's refuge in Chiswick with her daughter, Cordelia, aged two. She intends to return on Monday to the flat she



Miss Jennifer Davis.

shared as joint tenant with Mr Mohammed Johnson.

Mrs Tina Wood, a social worker at the refuge, said yesterday that Miss Davis and the other women at the refuge were very pleased with the decision, although the Lords appeal was pending. The decision was also welcomed by the Rights of Women organization, and the National Women's Aid Federation, which coordinates a network of more than a hundred refuges for battered wives throughout Britain.

The federation said the judgment upheld the original spirit of the Act, but pointed out that there were still uncertainties about its interpretation, which might mean that county court judges would continue to be reluctant to grant exclusion orders where a couple were not married. Other parts of the Act were under stress in practice because some courts were reluctant to attach powers of arrest to exclusion orders and, even when they were given, in some areas the police were unwilling to enforce them.

Law Report, page 3.

Half of elms in some areas killed by disease

By a Staff Reporter

About 11 million elms are estimated to have been killed by Dutch elm disease in the most seriously affected parts of Britain, according to a report by the Forestry Commission. That is an increase of two million over the past year, and almost 23 million elms in those areas have been killed.

In some areas, such as the West Midlands, Surrey, Hampshire and West Sussex, most elms have been killed. Only in two areas, East Sussex and Devon, are the elms being replaced, but the disease has "sanitized" felling of trees which have the disease been carried out with reasonable success.

The worst affected areas are south of a line from the Mersey to the Wash, and include parts of Wales. Even outside those areas, there has been a significant increase in Dutch elm disease over the past year: the number of reported cases has been two to five times higher than last year in northern England and western Wales.

Active control campaigns have been stepped in the blighted areas, apart from East Sussex and Devon, and the main efforts are being directed to the clearance of dead elms. In highly affected areas, sanitation felling is being continued, since it can slow down the development of the disease.

Felling campaigns of that sort in parts of northern England and Scotland, which have been in operation for only one or two years, have proved relatively effective. But it has been found that they can be successful only where disease levels are low and where the felling is extremely thorough.

The report expresses concern over the possible illegal movement of elm logs with bark still attached into lightly affected areas.

It adds that organized replanting schemes are of paramount importance, and that grants are available. Although young elm suckers are as susceptible as older trees to the disease, they may escape infection in areas where the disease has destroyed the bigger trees, the "hosts" for the beetles to breed in.

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Street confrontation: Mr Horace Cutler, Leader of the Greater London Council (centre) and Mr David Stimpson, leader of Lambeth council, confronted by an angry resident, Miss Tina Gould, as they inspected a housing improvement scheme in Railton Road, Herne Hill, yesterday. Miss Gould shouted that Lambeth had mismanaged its housing policies and that "millions" of houses were left empty while "people like me are in bed and breakfast". The two men had been in a party of central and local government officials touring the borough of Lambeth (John Young writes). Others in the party included Miss Jackson, Under-Secretary of State, Department of Education and Science; Mr Grant, Under-Secretary of State, Department of Employment; Mr Moyle, Minister of State, Department of Health and Social Security; and Sir Ashley Bramall, leader of the Inner

London Education Authority. After their tour, Mr Barnett, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of the Environment, said government aid for specific inner-city areas was only "the icing on the cake". It should be seen in the context of the Government's programme of concentrating all forms of assistance, notably the rate-support grant, in areas of greatest need and deprivation. He said that singling out certain local authorities for special assistance had presented the Government with some difficult decisions. It seems fairly clear that one reason why Lambeth was chosen for yesterday's tour was concern over the growing black "ghetto" in Brixton, with its attendant unemployment, crime and exploitation. Another was the fact that it has the highest population of any London borough, with an unacceptably high density in several districts.

Racial discrimination on mortgages alleged

Building societies are said by the Commission for Racial Equality to be applying "mortgage discrimination" against ethnic minorities.

Mr David Lane, chairman of the commission, said in Leeds yesterday that building societies have a responsibility to give mortgages to those qualified to receive them.

"We are disturbed that building societies tend to look unfavourably on applications for houses where ethnic minorities are concentrated," he said.

Not only had local authorities to be fair allocating houses but the building societies also had a responsibility to be fair in giving mortgages.

It is a disturbing fact that building societies look very unfavourably on giving mortgages in areas where there are concentrations of ethnic minorities, in spite of the fact that houses they would otherwise have mortgaged are still available in these areas in large numbers.

Mr Lane said building societies in different parts of the country had a policy of not agreeing to mortgages in certain areas.

Mr Lane spoke of the activities of the National Front in schools and said there would be a special meeting in London tomorrow. "We are organizing against these thoroughly pernicious, evil activities."

On employment, Mr Lane said the North-east had traditionally been an area of high unemployment and that was made worse for workers from ethnic minorities who, because of direct and indirect racial discrimination, suffered propo-

tionately higher levels of unemployment.

"It is our intention to do all we can to encourage employers, both in the private and public sectors, to adopt policies of equal opportunity in recruitment, appointment and promotion," he said.

"We cannot but help notice that after 30 years of immigration a large body of people from the minority groups still work in the mills, where night shifts are common; on the buses, where split shifts are common; and in foundries and the chemical industry, where working conditions are extremely unpleasant."

Mr Ralph Stow, chairman of the Building Societies Association, later described Mr Lane's remarks on building societies as exaggerated and unfortunate.

He said: "There are only two matters that we consider when dealing with mortgage applications: the report of the surveyor on the property in question, and the financial status of the applicant."

"We do not ask any questions about ethnic origins and we are not aware of them."

Mr Stow said some inner-city properties were not suitable for purchase, and it was possible that some immigrant groups gravitated towards very poor parts.

But we do not consider the colour of a man or woman, or ethnic origins. We have a statutory obligation to carry out a survey of a property, and that is what we consider."

He said the commission had exaggerated its criticism was a generalization and "very unfortunate".

Community job for men who had knives

Stephen Heffernan, aged 18, a white man, who has been threatened with being sent to a detention centre for threatening a coloured man with a knife at the Notting Hill carnival, was sentenced yesterday to 60 hours' community service work.

Mr Roderick Romain, the Marylebone magistrate, had remanded Mr Heffernan, an accounts clerk of Birch Hill, Bracknell, Berkshire, at the last hearing for reports after he had been found guilty of having an offensive weapon.

Arvel Ford, aged 18, a coloured storeman from Bethnal Green, London, who had also been threatened with a detention centre when found guilty of threatening behaviour and having a knife at the carnival was ordered to do 100 hours' community service work and pay £35 costs.

More areas get work schemes for offenders

The community service scheme is being expanded on Thursday to 23 more areas in eight counties of England and Wales. The expansion, promised in the Chancellor's financial measures in October, means that the scheme will function in all or part of 55 out of 56 probation service regions of England and Wales.

The new areas will include parts of Cambridgeshire, Cornwall, Derbyshire, Northumberland, Suffolk, North Wales and Powys.

Under the scheme a court can make a community service order on an offender aged 17 or over who is convicted of an offence for which he could otherwise be imprisoned. If the offender consents to the order he is required to carry out a specified number of hours on approved community work in his spare time.

Holidays for disabled

From Tim Jones

Local authorities were urged yesterday to help in providing annual holidays for some of the 15 million people in Britain who are unable to take a vacation for reasons of disability, infirmity or poverty.

Mr Barry Jones, Under-Secretary of State for Wales, who was addressing a conference in Cardiff on social tourism, said the authorities should be encouraged to use the chronically Sick and Disabled Persons' Act, 1970, when their financial circumstances improved.

Mr Jones told the conference, organized by the Wales Tourist Council:

"There now exists an awareness that the disadvantaged have a particular need for a holiday. Sadly, it is the low-paid, the elderly, and the physically handicapped who are least likely to be able to afford a holiday."

He suggested that more initiative could be taken in offering low-cost holidays to underprivileged groups from September to May, and called for the establishment of a social tourism award for those who do most to help the underprivileged.

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Mental health test case may affect thousands

By Our Social Services Correspondent

An industrial tribunal hearing which is regarded as a test case on the rights of former psychiatric patients to employment in the private sector will open in Liverpool today. The result is expected to affect more of the 180,000 patients discharged from psychiatric hospitals, many of whom seek jobs.

The tribunal will consider whether Mr Henry O'Brien was unfairly dismissed from his job as a district insurance agent after he had told his employers that he had a history of mental illness. He is being supported by Mind, the organization for mental health, which is campaigning for a medical change in attitudes by employers and the general public towards employment for the mentally ill.

Mr O'Brien worked for the Prudential Assurance Company for almost a year before he disclosed his medical history. Until then he had been regarded as a conscientious and reliable employee, according to Mr Larry Gostin, Mind's legal adviser, who will represent Mr O'Brien at the tribunal hearing.

The disclosure that he had a history of mild mental illness, including two periods in hospital in the 1960s, led to a series of interviews with management and to his dismissal.

Mind has supported a civil servant in a similar case and he was reinstated in his job. That case led to the Prime Minister's promising to review Civil Service policy in relation to the employment of former psychiatric patients. Mind hopes that the tribunal hearing will bring similar results in private industry and commerce.

"If this tribunal does not find in Mr O'Brien's favour, people will understandably be reluctant to disclose their medical histories because of the fear that it will inevitably lead to the sack," Mr Tony Smythe, director of Mind, said yesterday.

There are a large number of people involved; apart from the 180,000 leaving psychiatric hospitals every year, 600,000 people are referred for specialist psychiatric treatment each year.

Mind deals on average with two cases a week of people who believe they are discriminated against in employment because of their previous mental illnesses. Most have been in public sector jobs, but Mind believes that job discrimination is also widespread in the private sector.

been organized, and a group of secondary school head teachers would spend a week in the Saarland to study the secondary school system there. A return visit would be paid by West German teachers. Plans were in hand for exchange visits by youth groups and youth leaders. As with France, there had been cultural links; recently, Leicestershire musicians had participated in several concerts, including a performance in Bonn which was broadcast live by West German radio. A drama group had put on a series of performances in the Saarland.

Mr Fairbairn continued: "There now exist official links with the Seine Maritime and Saarland, both of which have been sealed by documents signed in ceremonies in Leicester, Rouen, and the Saarland. These are declarations of intent signed by our chairman, the Prefect of the Seine Maritime, and the minister of education in the Saarland. The education links are part of a broader interest shown by Leicestershire in establishing international contacts, of which the most obvious manifestation was the staging in Leicester last year of Europa Cantat VI, the largest choral festival for young singers in Europe, which attracted well over 2,000 Europeans to sing for 10 days in Leicester."

Each year, between ten and twenty sixth-form students from Leicestershire have the opportunity to spend a week in a French lycée. Apart from school contacts, there has been an increase in the number of twinning arrangements between towns and villages.

The pattern has been similar in the Saarland, although the link is more recent. Leicestershire children spend a week working alongside children from Saarbrücken in a residential centre.

The centre was used by four hundred local pupils during the last year. Mr Fairbairn said that teachers' courses had

been organized, and a group of secondary school head teachers would spend a week in the Saarland to study the secondary school system there. A return visit would be paid by West German teachers. Plans were in hand for exchange visits by youth groups and youth leaders. As with France, there had been cultural links; recently, Leicestershire musicians had participated in several concerts, including a performance in Bonn which was broadcast live by West German radio. A drama group had put on a series of performances in the Saarland.

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£7.8m plan for new canal link

By Annabel Ferriman

A campaign to persuade the Government to back a £7.8m scheme for a new water transport route for South Yorkshire was launched yesterday by the British Waterways Board and South Yorkshire County Council.

The board wants to improve 35km of the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation from Rotherham to Bramwith in order to link Rotherham and Sheffield with the Humber ports.

At present about 500,000 tons of steel, glass, wire, coal, coke, sugar and grain are carried up the waterway each year, but loads of more than 30 tons cannot go beyond Doncaster.

If 10 locks were improved, five bridges widened or removed and sharp curves and other restrictions on larger craft reduced, the route would be able to take loads of 400-700 tons. It is estimated that the annual tonnage could be increased by 2,400,000 tons.

The board has been told that it could qualify for a 30 per cent grant from the EEC Regional Development Fund, which would amount to £2.3m. It also estimates that the cost of bringing the neglected waterway up to the standard required by law would be another £2.4m, so the Government is being asked to provide only an extra £3m for the improvements.

Representatives from the board are to meet two groups of MPs tomorrow to put their case: the Yorkshire MPs and the all-party waterways group. It is also seeking a meeting with Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, in January.

Mr Kenneth Sampey, deputy leader of South Yorkshire County Council, said yesterday that the council was supporting the scheme because it would attract industry to the area and might provide anything up to 7,500 jobs. For a cost equivalent to only a mile of urban motorway, it would also give an environmental uplift to a very deprived area.

Mr David McCance, general manager of the British Waterways Board, said it had been wanting to improve the navigation since 1966, but the Government had always said that the time was not right.

The Government wanted a rate of return on this scheme of 15 per cent, even though the return required on other transport infrastructure investment projects was less than 10 per cent.

A cost-benefit analysis reflecting wider advantages to the area of the scheme had indicated a return of 19-20 per cent, but the actual financial return was assessed at 10-11 per cent, he added.

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Anxiety over imported TV programmes

By Kenneth Gosling

The Radio and Television Safeguards Committee, which comprises trade union and professional bodies concerned with broadcasting, is seeking an urgent meeting with Sir Brian Young, Director-General of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, about what it calls "the disproportionate amount of foreign and old cinema material appearing on British television."

The committee is concerned about "persistent rumours" that the authority intends to cut the quota of foreign material from 14 to 12 per cent, but that EEC material will henceforth count as British and that Canadian and North American material, formerly regarded as British, will be classified as foreign.

Mr Peter Plouffe, general secretary of Equity, the actors' union, said yesterday: "We have no doubt that this Christmas will once again see both the BBC and ITV relying on old films as their main attractions."

The authority agreed that discussions, still in their early stages, were going on to see whether it would be possible to increase the amount of home-produced material, thus reducing the import of programmes.

County celebrates European links

In a few days' time schools and colleges in Leicestershire will start celebrating a European week which will culminate in the presentation to the county council on December 9 of a flag of honour awarded by the Council of Europe. It is a recognition of the county's commitment to Europe, and particularly the education department's efforts in fostering knowledge of the European Community.

Franco-German cheese and wine parties will be held throughout the county, there will be music recitals and concerts, and suitable changes in school meal menus.

Leicestershire has been singled out for the award mainly because of the close educational links that have been established with the Seine Maritime department in France and the Saarland in West Germany.

The French connexion started in 1969 and the West German one in 1973. Mr Andrew Fairbairn, the director of education, said four residential centres in and around Dieppe had been used for group visits, and links developed with schools and the Academy of Rouen.

During the last academic year 2,600 children from Leicestershire spent a week at the centres.

Mr Fairbairn said: "Obviously, the main benefit of this and the West German

Regional report

Arthur Osman
Leicester

link, derives from motivating youngsters to learn the languages, but it also helps enormously in European studies if they have actually worked with French and German children across the Channel. They soon find out, for instance, that not all the French eat frog's legs, and horse meat. On the other hand, some find out, for the first time, that some do."

Each year, between ten and twenty sixth-form students from Leicestershire have the opportunity to spend a week in a French lycée. Apart from school contacts, there has been an increase in the number of twinning arrangements between towns and villages.

The pattern has been similar in the Saarland, although the link is more recent. Leicestershire children spend a week working alongside children from Saarbrücken in a residential centre.

The centre was used by four hundred local pupils during the last year. Mr Fairbairn said that teachers' courses had

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WEST EUROPE

Polish Communist Party leader in Rome for visit which will include talk with Pope

From Peter Nichols

Rome, Nov 28. Mr. Edward Gierek, the Polish party leader, arrived here today on a visit to which much importance is attached both for Polish-Italian relations and because of the unprecedented call he will make on the Pope.

He was met at the airport by Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Prime Minister. He will see the Pope on Thursday after his official visit to Italy has ended. It will be the first time that a Polish party leader has been to the Vatican.

Most of the past three decades have been marked by hostility between Warsaw and the Vatican. In part, the promise of better relations is due to internal problems in Poland, particularly economic problems which have convinced Mr

Gierek that help from the Church is essential to his Government.

The visit is also one of the more tangible results of the Vatican's patient diplomacy in East Europe aimed at giving the Roman Catholic Church the necessary freedom in which to work. In the meantime, the Polish bishops, led by Cardinal Wyszyński, have made a series of agreements with the Polish authorities, the latest in 1971. While such has proved increasingly favourable to the Church's position, the Vatican still wants to see more progress before relations with Poland can be regarded as normal, and formally recognized as such.

The crucial meeting at which Mr Gierek and Cardinal Wyszyński discussed the possibilities of a degree of cooperation in the national interest

took place on October 29. This was the first meeting between the cardinal and a leader of the Communist Party for seven years.

The official communiqué stated that they had exchanged points of view "on the most important problems of the nation and the church which have capital importance for the unity of the Poles in the work of the construction of prosperity in People's Poland". The text was printed in the newspapers and broadcast for two days.

Shortly afterwards, Mr Gierek left for Moscow where, he attended the sixtieth anniversary of the Russian revolution and had the opportunity of reporting on his religious policy to the Russians. The Polish bishops came to Rome for their regular five-yearly visit to the Vatican and were re-

ceived by the Pope on November 12.

The cardinal naturally would have wanted to give a complete account at the Vatican of his dealings with the Polish authorities well in advance of Mr Gierek's arrival.

Unlike the situation in the rest of East Europe, the Church in Poland is strong. Thirty-three million out of 35 million Poles are Catholic. It is estimated that 70 out of 100 young people go to church. The number of seminary students has risen from 4,088 in 1971 to 4,500 in 1976.

Because of this strength and the identification of Catholicism with the country's nationhood the Catholic Church in Poland has not been reduced in the way other Catholics have suffered from the communist world. Leading article, page 15

Navarra divided on Basque issue

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Nov 28. The conservative National Alliance Party today published an appeal to Spain's political leaders to prevent strife in the northern province of Navarra after a political rift had widened tension there between pro-Madrid and pro-Basque factions.

The Basque separatist organization ETA assassinated the local chief of the National security police in the provincial capital, Pamplona, on Saturday night. The extremist attack, although it was condemned by the main political parties of the Basque country, was the spark which set off anti-Basque demonstrations on Sunday and today, involving as many as 2,000 people at a time.

The demonstrations reflected a division of opinion among residents of the province about whether Navarra should be included in the Basque region, which is about to win provisional home rule, or whether the province should continue to be an administrative dependency of the central Government in Madrid.

Navarra, once a kingdom in its own right but historically associated with the other three Basque provinces, did not form part of the independent Basque state which was formed at the time of the Spanish civil war. In 1937, the Basque provinces fought fiercely on the side of General Franco, although the Carlist movement later became an enemy of the Franco regime.

Both the National Alliance, headed by Señor Manuel Fraga Iribarne, and the Centre Democratic Union, which brought Señor Suárez, the Prime Minister, to power, have been pursuing a divide-and-conquer policy on the issue of Basque autonomy. Navarra, the only Basque province where the Madrid-orientated conservative parties have any appreciable strength.

Demonstrations continued throughout the afternoon in Pamplona today, after the funeral of Major Joaquín Imaiz, who was shot dead by Basque terrorists on the day on which Basque separatists fought democratically elected officials. The text that will grant provisional home rule to the region.

A military chaplain attached to the security police forces poured fuel on the fire with a sermon in which he alleged that such an assassination would not have taken place during General Franco's reign and praised the rough security police as "guardians of peace". After the funeral, demonstrators marched to the offices of the provincial government, where officials acceded to their angry demands to display the Spanish and Navarra flags.

The killing not only deepened the split between centralists and home-rulers; it isolated further the left wing of Basque nationalism, including minority parties that openly support the ETA. In a statement the Basque Socialist Party called the killing not only a crime but a political mistake "which might induce the Navarra people to decide against the incorporation of that area into the Basque community."

Paris denies Croissant jail beating

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Nov 28. The French Ministry of Justice today denied that Herr Klaus Croissant, the lawyer for the Baader-Meinhof group, extradited to West Germany on November 16, had been assaulted by warders just before leaving the Santé prison in Paris.

One of his three French counsel, Mme Schmidt, who had just returned from seeing him in Stammheim prison, Stuttgart, told a congress of the Syndicat de la Magistrature in Rennes that he had been beaten and given an anaesthetic because he protested at being extradited before his appeal had been heard. He had managed to get his lawyers to his cell, but they were made to wait outside the prison, and that if attempts were made to extradite him that same evening, he should resist and call for the prison director. He struggled against the warders, and was thrown to the ground, and his arms were pinioned. He said the appeal was ready in this cell, and he was allowed to fetch it and hand it over to the deputy governor. But when he realized this would be of no avail, he again kicked up a

Herr Kohl strengthens his position

From Patricia Clough

Bonn, Nov 28. Herr Helmut Kohl, the Christian Democratic Opposition leader, was given his party's full support today despite earlier suggestions that Herr Franz-Josef Strauss, the Bavarian Christian Social Union leader, would make a better Opposition candidate for the Chancellorship in the 1980 elections.

A meeting of 225 CDU and CSU leaders thus put an end, at least for the time being, to the so-called "Kohl-Strauss" unspoken and damaging dispute between supporters of the two men.

The argument had developed inadvertently out of mounting criticism of Herr Kohl's leadership, which was regarded by some as weak, hesitant and controversial.

Several leading Opposition members found it necessary to emphasize that his position and career candidacy for the Chancellorship were regarded by the party as a matter of course. At this point, Herr Fritz Zimmermann, Bundestag leader of the CSU, declared that his chief was just as strong a potential candidate as Herr Kohl.

The issue reached a climax last week when Herr Strauss announced that he would run this year for the post of Prime Minister of Bavaria. This is seen as a strategically powerful position from which to lay a claim for the national leadership when the time comes.

Although Herr Strauss says he is not climbing on the "candidates' merry-go-round",

he has made it clear he is not going to bury himself in Bavaria. "They will not be rid of me so quickly on the Rhine", he said.

Although Herr Kohl certainly lacks the personality of the colourful and irrepressible Herr Strauss, he is probably much stronger than he seems. Of a moderate outlook, he can reconcile different interests in the party and appeal to a much wider spectrum of the electorate than Herr Strauss, who arouses as much dislike as he does admiration.

Simple adjectives such as "good" and "honest" are frequently applied to Herr Kohl, and many believe he would be a much better Chancellor than Strauss. He certainly enjoys the confidence of the public; an opinion poll last week put him far ahead of Herr Strauss both in the electorate generally and among CDU-CSU voters.

Nevertheless, Herr Strauss, who was extremely reluctant to accept Herr Kohl as Opposition leader, is seen to be in training for a future attempt to displace him. He has been travelling a good deal on his mission to improve party members' say, his not always flattering image abroad and build up his reputation here.

He ran into trouble, however, during his recent visit to Chile where his expressions of sympathy for General Pinochet's regime, which he saw as a victim of an international campaign of lies and slander, earned him bitter

criticism at home and from Chilean Christian Democrats.

With fears of yet another setback in the 1980 elections, there are also plans for the CSU to move out of its traditional boundaries of Bavaria and form alliances with small moderate groups which have broken away from the Social Democrats in various places.

The aim is to "mop up" pools of votes which could make all the difference, given the narrow margin between the two big parties.

Meanwhile, a hard figure is hovering on the edge of the dispute: Herr Alfred Dregger, the CDU leader in Hesse. He is a tough-talking right winger like Herr Strauss and is seen as a possible alternative for the right wing if Herr Strauss should prove too divisive a figure to be a serious candidate. Like Herr Strauss, he has studiously avoided ruling out his becoming a candidate.

Nevertheless, the image of the Opposition just as the parties are preparing for a batch of Land elections during the coming year. Herr Kohl said in a radio interview at the weekend that quarrelling was the most stupid thing he could do at the moment.

The CDU is hoping in particular to wrest Hesse from the Social Democrats, who have ruled there for many years. Herr Kohl is reported to be another big Land. The party's performance during the next 12 months should decide, as much as anything, who will lead it in the 1980 elections.

Students protest at Bonn law limiting study years

From Our Own Correspondent

Bonn, Nov 28. Students at about half of West German universities and colleges today began a two-week boycott of lectures to protest at a federal law limiting the number of years they may study.

The students assert that the law is considerably more restrictive than the conditions prevailing in many places at present.

It enables the academic authorities to suspend troublesome students, a power which they could be abused. It has been used by two conservative Länder to abolish the local equivalent of student unions and to restrict the number of students in various places, such as Bremen, students and non-teaching staff had equal weight. Students placed lectures in various places, such as Bremen, students and non-teaching staff had equal weight. Students placed lectures in various places, such as Bremen, students and non-teaching staff had equal weight.

The National Union of Students, which called the boycott, claimed that 120 of the 159 universities and colleges had joined in and another 20 were planning to do so later. Support in these places was running at about 80 per cent, it was said. The conservative Christian Democratic Students' Association claimed that the boycott had failed.

Mr Schmidt, a former minister, and the expulsion from France of Mr Abu Daoud, the Palestinian leader wanted by West Germany for questioning about the Olympic Games massacre in 1972.

M. Braunschweig felt it was unfortunate that the Government had not respected the judicial system over the recent extradition case involving Herr Klaus Croissant, the Baader-Meinhof defence lawyer. "It could have waited a few days for the Conseil d'Etat to give a ruling on the extradition verdict."

and colleges are represented, had opposed the dissolution of student unions.

The law has dealt another blow to the old tradition in German universities where students could take as long as they wished, or could afford, to sustain a course of study at one university to another to seek the best teachers.

The *Freier Student* (external students who cannot bring themselves to stop studying and face the world, was once a common feature at German universities. Restrictions on intake in many places in recent years have discouraged the wandering habit. Now students will be given only four years to complete their studies unless they can show good reasons why they should take longer. This compares with an average of about six and a half years in the past.

The main aim is to create more college places, theoretically about 200,000—but students feel they will be channelled at high pressure through the universities without any time to broaden their studies or even to have any life of their own.

The law, passed by the Federal Parliament last year, is a framework legislation which the 11 Land governments are in the process of applying to their territories. Inevitably the interpretation of the law depends on the political views of the Land governments. The Länder of Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg have used it to suppress student bodies while those in Social Democratic Hamburg, Bremen and West Berlin are decidedly more easy going.

France kills EEC beef prices plan

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, Nov 28. In the face of intense pressure, the European Commission has agreed to have abandoned, at least for the time being, its proposal for a new system of support for the beef market of the kind that has been allowed hitherto.

The purpose of the Commission's proposals is to allow EEC consumers to benefit from lower shop prices when beef is in abundant supply, and to restrict consumption, and to restrict the accumulation of large beef stockpiles throughout the Community.

In spite of strong support from European consumer groups, Mr. P. O. Godech, the Commissioner for Agriculture, is understood to have come to the conclusion that there is little point in trying to secure agreement for the proposed reform at the next farm-price fixing session, as originally intended.

There was an immediately hostile response to the reform proposals from the French who were first announced and they have run into further difficulties since then in the special committee on agriculture. The tough French attitude is thought to be dictated in part by the general election due in April. At present, in all EEC countries except Britain, intervention agencies automatically buy up beef for cold storage when market prices fall below a certain level of support. Under the reform proposed by the Commission, intervention would occur at a lower level, high producers' returns being maintained by direct subsidies or "deficiency payments" of the British type.

Nine end dispute over aid to poorest nations

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, Nov 28

The EEC agreed today to contribute \$385m (about £213m) to the \$1,000m emergency aid which industrialized countries pledged to provide to the world's poorest nations at the North-South dialogue in Paris in June.

Agreement was reached with difficulty because of a dispute among the Nine over the conditions to be attached to the aid before it is transferred to the International Development Association.

Under a compromise, the money will go to a special list of 36 countries with a per capita income of \$280 or less, and no more than 50 per cent can go to any one continent or 20 per cent to any one country. The second condition answers French fear that most of the aid would be given to Asia, and particularly India, instead of former French colonies in Africa.

OVERSEAS

Professor's evidence on causes of Biko death

From Nicholas Ashford

Pretoria, Nov 28

The eleventh day of the inquest on Steve Biko, the South African Black Consciousness leader, dwelt largely on detailed medical evidence concerning the exact cause of his death.

In his second day of evidence, Professor Neville Proctor, one of South Africa's most respected and experienced neuropathologists, said there could be no doubt that Mr Biko's death while in police custody was caused by head injury, although he might have actually died of the complications that arose from this.

So far as he was aware, on the evidence placed before him, these complications would not have set in had head injury not occurred. Among the complications he named were uraemia, kidney failure and swelling of the brain (edema).

Under cross-examination by Mr P. R. van Rooyen, counsel for the police, Professor Proctor, who is head of the department of pathology at the University of the Witwatersrand, said he had come to the conclusion after examining Mr Biko's brain that more than one application of force had caused the head injury. He agreed he could not be 100 per cent certain about this, however.

"I had it clear in my mind that more than one application of force was involved, but I cannot say for certain," he said. "I had not mentioned this matter in a report he submitted to a group of doctors, including the chief state pathologist, on October 12."

Professor Proctor added that the group of doctors discussing the post-mortem examination on Mr Biko decided to leave the question open whether one or more blows were involved. This was why it was decided to write in the post-mortem report that death was due to head injury and not to a head injury or head injuries.

During his cross-examination, Professor Proctor was asked by Mr Van Rooyen whether a member of the medical team retained by the Biko family had gone overseas to "gather information" on the mechanics of a contra coup head injury of the kind described in the post-mortem report on Mr Biko's death. He replied that he did not know why this person had gone overseas "but he certainly gained information from people who had been in any of us in this country."

At this point Mr Sydney Kentridge, counsel for the Biko family, interjected to say that the subject of the overseas journey had been mentioned by him only in "confidential consultations and private telephone calls". He would be interested to know the source of Mr Van Rooyen's information. "No doubt he has available an extensive network which can give him this information," he added.

Mr Van Rooyen said he did not wish to draw any "conclusions" from the overseas journey, but the matter was not taken any further.

Later during today's hearing Dr Andries van Zyl, the Pretoria district surgeon who examined Mr Biko on September 12, the day he died, told the inquiry that he was not aware that Mr Biko had shown signs of brain damage when examined in Port Elizabeth. Mr Biko was taken from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria by road some 14 hours before he died.

Under cross-examination by Mr Kentridge, Dr van Zyl said Mr Biko was in a "bad condition" when he saw him in Pretoria hospital, but he was not told that Mr Biko was in need of urgent care. The only treatment he had ordered was a drip and vitamin injections.



A museum director admires the tusks of a mammoth found during drainage work on a collective farm near Kirov in the Soviet Union.

Lawyers' warning on Soviet trials

Rome, Nov 28.—Western

lawyers acting for prominent Soviet dissidents said in Rome today that they would hold parallel trials in London and New York if they were barred from defending their jailed clients in Moscow.

"We were giving evidence on the last day of the Second International Sakharov Hearings, a Copenhagen-based committee named after Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet Nobel prize winner, to monitor human rights in East Europe."

"If I am not allowed to go to Moscow I will prove at a public trial in London that my client is innocent," Mr John Macdonald, defending Mr Yuri Orlov, told the hearings. Mr Orlov, arrested in Moscow last February, was the founder of the unofficial Soviet committee set up in 1976 to watch compliance with the 1975 Helsinki document on human rights.

Lawyers acting for two other members of the Helsinki watch group, Mr Alexander Ginzburg

and Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, the Jewish mathematician, told the hearings they had been refused visas to go to Moscow to work on the defence.

Mr Gregory Craig, one of the American lawyers acting for Mr Ginzburg, said that a public trial was planned in New York if the Soviet authorities refused representation in Moscow.

Mr Daniel Jacobi, a French lawyer, said that his client, Mr Shcharansky, was facing charges of treason under article 64 of the Soviet penal code which carries a possible death sentence.

"We have twice been refused a visa and have learnt that our client has only a lawyer if he pleads guilty," Mr Jacobi said. Mr Burton Hall, a lawyer from New York, said that he was expelled from the Soviet Union last month when he tried to intervene in the case of Mr Alexander Sergeenko, another jailed dissident.

Mr Macdonald said that the Orlov case had made world opinion aware of the fact that the Soviet authorities did not even respect their own "harsh laws."

He expected that Mr Orlov would be released in a few weeks under the provisions of the recent amnesty.

"This is the price the Soviet Government is going to have to pay if it wishes détente to continue," Mr Macdonald added a quote from Senator Robert Dole, of the United States: "If the Soviet Union is not prepared to respect basic human rights, let them eat their own wheat."

The wives of Mr Orlov and Mr Ginzburg smuggled taped pleas for Western support to the closing session of the Rome hearings.

Mrs Ginzburg said that she feared for her husband's life because he was suffering from a gastric ulcer and tuberculosis at the time of his arrest last February.—Reuter and AP.

Mission to heal rift in Arab world

By Our Foreign Staff

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are embarking on a joint mission to prevent a deterioration of relations among the Arab countries, which are bitterly divided over President Sadat's overtures to Israel.

Announcing this yesterday, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad, Foreign Minister of Kuwait, did not say when the mission would begin, but he hoped its representations would bear fruit. He said Kuwait had been invited to the anti-Sadat meeting in Tripoli this week, but had not yet decided whether to attend.

Iraq has also proposed an Arab summit of the countries opposed to President Sadat's peace efforts, to be held in Baghdad next week. The Iraqi news agency reported.

The agency said the proposed talks would include representatives of Algeria, Libya, South Yemen, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Rejection Front.

A Lebanese newspaper reported yesterday that Iraq had decided to attend the Tripoli meeting this week with leaders of Syria, Algeria, South Yemen, the PLO and Libya. Egypt and Israel appear to be the only two countries likely to attend the meeting in Cairo next Saturday called by President Sadat to prepare for a Geneva peace conference.

Egypt's invitation to Israel was headed by its permanent representative to the United Nations in New York, Dr Ismar Abdel-Meguid, to Israel's permanent representative, Mr

Haim Hertzog—the first direct contact between the Egyptian and Israeli permanent representatives.

A senior Foreign Ministry source in Cairo described Saturday's meeting as a "mini-Geneva" at the level of experts rather than ministers. It would be "informal" and not bound by procedures of the Geneva conference "otherwise it would take months to prepare it."

The agenda will be discussed and prepared by the participants, the source said. He drew attention to the fact that the "mini-Geneva" had been enlarged to include the PLO and Lebanon.

Asked whether Egypt had invited Palestinians on the West Bank of the River Jordan and in the Gaza strip, he said: "No, the invitation for the conference was sent only to the PLO. It is their problem to sort out who, if any, will attend."

Jordan announced last night that it could attend the Saturday meeting only if the talks were attended by all the parties to the Middle East conflict.

Similarly, Jordan would attend the Tripoli meeting only if all the Arab states took part. Earlier, King Hussein had praised the "great courage" of President Sadat and said Egypt's initiatives had broken down barriers that hindered a just settlement and peace in the Middle East.

He called on Arab leaders to "unify ranks and prevent a destructive division."

Mr Fuad Butros, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, yesterday

confirmed that Lebanon had received an invitation from Cairo for Saturday's meeting, but said no decision had been made on Beirut's reply.

Government sources said it was "virtually certain" Lebanon would not attend and would also avoid the Tripoli meeting. "When the Arabs disagree, we stand to the side," a government source said. "We want to stay neutral in this."

President Carter and Mr Vance, the American Secretary of State, yesterday discussed the latest Middle East peace moves. Mr Jody Powell, the White House press secretary, said Mr Carter feels the United States can move toward its goals of peace in the Middle East "most appropriately by maintaining a lower profile and working quietly behind the scenes to accentuate the positive developments and minimize the difficulties."

"If the momentum is kept going, it may not be important whether the Geneva conference gets under way before January," Mr Powell said.

In Damascus, President Assad said differences between Syria and Egypt did not mean they were totally ruptured. Answering a question, he said "divorce" was the wrong word to use in the context.

"We have different points of view on the methods for working for peace," he said. "We believe a great and dangerous mistake has been made and we are still opposed to the Egyptian direction which will prolong the conflict."

Guerrilla camp bombed again on second day

Continued from page 1

"I rolled and rolled across the ground and hid under a bush and then a bomb dropped on the spot where I had just been. I rolled again and fell into a pit and broke my arm. I had to lie there for some time."

"Now people were running in all directions and helicopters were firing at random and the jets were moving up and down. I was not able to see any of our headquarters and on Base No 2 simultaneously. We walked and walked. The last two jets that day came about 6 o'clock."

By now a group of about 240 Zimbabweans, many of them wounded had gathered together.

They bedded down in the bush and at 4 o'clock they started walking again. Many had to be carried. They reached Chimomo about 8 o'clock that evening. No one remembers clearly how many jets and helicopters took part in the attack. Several of the men talked of seven helicopters.

After the first bombing, Rhodesian troops started landing by parachute and from helicopters. Survivors said they began shooting all over the place and fired at children who had been at their classes when the attack began. The camp clinic was shot up and few of the patients got away. For periods the fighting was

extremely fierce, with some black Rhodesians using pangala weapons, chopping out at the Zimbabweans.

On the second day, Thursday, the bombers returned at 5.45 am and helicopters were again seen moving around the area several times. At one point around midday at least seven plumes of smoke could be seen from Chimomo.

As the injured were rounded up on the edge of the camp they were picked up by Chimomo's small, neat ambulances and taken to the local hospital. The director of the hospital was away in Maputo, so the clinic director, Dr Danuela

Santos, found herself in charge. For her it was not a new experience. Last year she had helped to tend the victims of the Nyazonia attack when about 700 refugees were killed.

In her hospital the injured were lying everywhere. In the emergency casualty room—not much bigger than a large sitting room—a woman was face down on a couch while a boiler was extracted from her. In the next room, another woman, bullet wounds in the chest, lay on the floor, still on the stretcher made of branches of a tree, on which she had been carried through the bush.

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Mr Karamanlis names his new Cabinet

From Our Own Correspondent

Athens, Nov 28

Mr Constantine Karamanlis, whose New Democracy won a majority in parliament in the Greek elections on November 20, set up his new Cabinet today. The ministers took the oath of office in the presence of President Tsatsos this evening.

The most important appointment was that of Mr Constantine Karamanlis's trusted collaborator, former President of Parliament, to the hitherto vacant post of Deputy Prime Minister. It is a move that seems to settle, for the time being at least, the problem of party succession.

Another significant move is the appointment of Mr George Konstantinidis as Minister in Charge of the negotiations with the EEC in conjunction with Mr Panayotis Papaligouras,

who was moved from the Ministry of Coordination to the Foreign Ministry for this purpose.

Earlier Mr Karamanlis submitted his government's resignation to President Tsatsos who asked him to form a new government as leader of the majority party.

This was the seventh government to be formed by Mr Karamanlis. He has completed a total of 12 years as Prime Minister after winning a parliamentary majority in five general elections. He has been in politics for 43 years.

While the new Government was being formed the parliamentary group of the Democratic Centre Union, which lost its position as the main opposition party, accepted the resignation of Mr George Mavros from the party leadership and proclaimed him honorary chairman.

The party group, which consists of 15 deputies, is to meet tomorrow to choose a successor. There are two candidates so far: Mr John Pemszoglou, a well-known economist, and Mr John Zigiadis, a former minister who was jailed during the dictatorship.

The new Cabinet is: Prime Minister: Constantine Karamanlis; Deputy Prime Minister: Constantine Karamanlis; Foreign Affairs: George Konstantinidis; Justice: Evangelos Averoff; Internal Affairs: Panayotis Papaligouras; Defence: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Education: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Health: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Agriculture: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Transport: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Labour: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Social Welfare: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Culture and Religion: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Information: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Science and Technology: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Environment: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Regional Development: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Tourism: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Sports: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Youth: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Veterans: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Women's Affairs: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Children's Affairs: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Elderly Affairs: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Disabled Affairs: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Prisoners: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Refugees: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Aliens: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Citizenship: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; Naturalisation: Christodoulos Stylianopoulos; There are 21 under-secretaries.

Former Bhutto minister's sentence quashed

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ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 01-476 1066
 The Royal Opera House
 Tuesday, 30.11.77, 8.00 p.m.
 The Royal Ballet
 The Nutcracker
 Ballet Master: Sir Kenneth MacMillan
 Principal Dancers: Rudolf Nureyev, Margot Fonteyn, David Wall, and others.

CONCERTS

WINDMILL 01-236 1111
 The Windmill Theatre
 Tuesday, 30.11.77, 8.00 p.m.
 The Musical Musical
 The Sound of Music
 Musical Director: Sir John Coxon

THEATRES

ADAMANT 01-236 1111
 The Adamant Theatre
 Tuesday, 30.11.77, 8.00 p.m.
 The Musical Musical
 The Sound of Music
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ALBERT 01-236 1111
 The Albert Theatre
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 The Sound of Music
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ALHAMBRA 01-236 1111
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ALHAMBRA 01-236 1111
 The Alhambra Theatre
 Tuesday, 30.11.77, 8.00 p.m.
 The Musical Musical
 The Sound of Music
 Musical Director: Sir John Coxon

THE ARTS

Polly Adams into country wife

For a lady not yet out of her thirties, Polly Adams has had a distinctly Edwardian stage career. Years of Noel Coward, Ben Travers, Frederick Lonsdale and John Galsworthy were followed by a brief burst of modernism in Ayckbourn's *Bedroom Farce* but now she's even further back in the past, 1675 to be precise, for Peter Hall's current new production of *The Country Wife* which opens at the Old Vic tonight.

Leading a company which also includes Albert Finney, Richard Johnson, Elizabeth Spriggs and Robin Bailey, Miss Adams, who is now 34, is playing the role of the country wife who feels safe or somewhat threatened.

"On the one hand, with all those good people around you and in this great building, you feel protected; on the other hand, if it does go wrong, there's somehow more to go wrong than at a less famous theatre."

Now 38, Polly Adams has already survived virtually 20 years in the business since her first West End job opposite Peter Scoufied and Sir Ralph Richardson in *The Country Wife* at the Old Vic in 1959. Not surprisingly, perhaps, for one who started so well so young she comes from a family of actors.

"Joseph Barker was my great-grandfather and Gordon Barker was a great uncle, so I was brought up against a background of the old touring actor-managers, though there was all on my mother's side of the family. Father was attached to the Foreign Office and stayed far away from all that sort of thing."

Her mother, she had a convent upbringing and was sure enough of her future to go to RADA at 17.

"I gave them a very bad bit of titanic which I was always doing and then I was told that kind of child, and they failed me, but then the second time I did a bit of Eliza Doolittle and they took me in during that rather good Tom Courtenay-Sussex York-Sir Philip time when Fernand had just taken over and RADA was looking up again. From there I got a job playing small parts in stage-managing on a tour of the *Doctor in the House* which I did at the end of those old West End days: one of the actors here at the National the other day said to me in horror 'Have you seen the set they've got at the Cottesloe for *Half Life*? It's just like going back to Tarentum', but I remember those days with a kind of nostalgia when they really weren't as bad as people make out."

Company life at the National suits her, though she has a feeling life might be easier if they could rehearse in a church hall somewhere instead of in those august surroundings.

"I still don't feel a very central member of the company, perhaps because they only let me do one play at a time—I had to leave *Bedroom Farce* to rehearse *The Country Wife* because we're on different



Courtmeidge and Jack Hulbert. I remember Bernard Levin giving us a special award for being the worst play of that year, but we still lasted about eighteen months counting the tour."

"I suppose it would have been better for me to have had a long training period in rep somewhere but I never did, and I can't say I regret having got in at the end of those old West End days: one of the actors here at the National the other day said to me in horror 'Have you seen the set they've got at the Cottesloe for *Half Life*? It's just like going back to Tarentum', but I remember those days with a kind of nostalgia when they really weren't as bad as people make out."

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"I still don't feel a very central member of the company, perhaps because they only let me do one play at a time—I had to leave *Bedroom Farce* to rehearse *The Country Wife* because we're on different

stages, though I hope maybe to go back to that and *Plunder* next year if they keep me on. I was sad to leave *Bedroom Farce*: one night, you know, John Cleese came and I'd never seen a man literally have a paroxysm of mirth before: he totally creased up and for a while I thought he'd never straighten out his legs again."

"After all that, *The Country Wife* seems somehow much harder as a convention: at least with Shakespeare you've almost always seen the play before you start rehearsing, but I've seen very little Restoration comedy and I find it very hard to give the mannerisms the importance they demand without letting them take the whole performance. It's like being a kamikaze pilot: you just have to fling yourself down into it and hope for the best. You can't creep up on the *Country Wife* the way you can with a modern comedy."

The future? "It's not something I really think about much: of course I worry that there aren't so many parts for 50-year-olds."

Sheridan Morley

Leonardo as anatomist

Quite recently two volumes of notes and drawings by Leonardo were discovered in the Biblioteca Nacional in Madrid. Soon, perhaps, we may know whether his lost fresco of *The Battle of Anghiari* still exists beneath the work of Vasari in the Sala del Cinquecento of the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence, when current tests are completed.

Now Leonardo's famous anatomical drawings from the Queen's collection at Windsor are exhibited separately in London for the first time. Previously the drawings had been bound together and so could only be displayed page by page. Recently they have been split up and sandwiched between two sheets of perspex. Protected like this, they can be exhibited so that the drawings on both sides of the page can be seen. (They were shown for the first time in this way in Washington and Los Angeles last year.) In the Royal Academy's Private Rooms they are simply and effectively displayed in an installation designed by Paul Williams.

Leonardo's contributions to anatomy is well known. Such was his energy and the many-sided nature of his genius that he achieved this as a mere fraction of his total activity. (Only 1 per cent of his extant work is anatomical.) His dissections and the drawings made from these were done between 1487 and 1493, and between 1505 and 1512. In his early drawings he concentrated on the brain and skull, the sensory and nervous systems and in particular the eye and its connections through the optic nerve to the brain. (Leonardo described the eye as "the window of the soul".)

Twenty years later he concentrated on the reproductive and digestive organs (from this period dates the most celebrated drawing of the infant in the womb), and the superb studies of musculature and bone structure, of the heart and the blood supply.

In his dissections and the conveying of the information he gathered from them through his drawings, Leonardo anticipated Vesalius by several decades. Nevertheless he was often still bound by medieval ways of looking at human anatomy. He did not, as is often held, discover the circulation of the blood.

Even so independent a mind as Leonardo was to an extent a prisoner of his time and traditional ideas. In an early drawing of a section through a copulating couple, he shows the sperm coming in a tube from the base of the spinal column, a belief derived from Hippocrates. And in the much later drawing of the baby in the womb he included in the vascular walls the coiled cords which he had found in dissecting the uterus of the cow, but which do not exist in the human womb. Although Leonardo was a pioneer of



The infant in the womb

comparative anatomy, this sometimes misfired. Nevertheless his achievement in the advance of anatomical science was enormous.

In his anatomical drawings he uses lines to convey the information as precisely as possible. They were not conceived of as finished works but as visual notes and records, although they have their own beauty which has long been recognized. But their realism is often disconcerting, particularly for those with queasy stomachs. In his forward to the catalogue Sir Anthony Blunt writes: "It must never be forgotten that these studies are not only fascinating diagrams but superb works of art."

Leonardo was a man of a multitude of great talents and to confound them in this way is to confuse the issue. Leonardo advanced the study of anatomy and of anatomical drawing. He also gained knowledge that he used in his art. From science he wrote, "is born creative action which is of much more value". Some of the drawings, like that of the child in the womb, which display the wonder of the creation of life, are great works of art. Most show a great inquiring intelligence at work. A few, like *Cotillon of hemisected man and woman*, are more of curiosity value and are not life-enhancing. It is clear that heterosexual union held no beauty for him. Fifteen years after mak-

ing this drawing he wrote: "The act of coitus and the parts employed therein are repulsive that if it were not for the beauty of the faces and adorning state of mind, nature would lose the human species."

The exhibition continues until February 19. The catalogue, which is fully illustrated (£22.00, £3.00 after the close of the exhibition) contains an excellent introduction on Leonardo da Vinci, the Anatomist, by Dr Kenneth Keele, who will lecture on "Leonardo da Vinci: Anatomia Naturale" on Thursday in the Lecture Room of the British Academy at Burlington House at 6.30.

Edwin Smith was a fine architectural and landscape photographer whose pictures were used to illustrate many of the best architectural and topographical books of the Fifties and Sixties. *First and Last Impressions: Edwin Smith 1912-1971* (Doubleday, until December 12) is an exhibition of photographs taken for himself. The latter pictures are sensitively recorded landscapes, the earlier are superb photographs of pre-war fairgrounds and circuses (which complement the Fairground exhibition at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, a pity some of them couldn't have been included there), and of a Camden Town which has long vanished.

Paul Overy

Silver Blaze HTV

Alan Coren

"Is there any point to which you would wish to draw my attention?" "To the curious incident of the actor in the night-time." "The actor did nothing in the night-time." "That was the curious incident," remarked the reviewer.

Last weekend, the vaunted *Sunday Drama* slot on Independent Television lasted less than half an hour. It held a curious little item, concerning the theft of a horse and the death of its trainer, set in Victorian England, an effect upon which no expense was spared, involving as it did a rehabilitated steam engine, several

hundred extras in top hats, and a big star in a deerstalker.

The star, Christopher Plummer, played a short, jovial private detective who, accompanied by an elderly doctor, set about solving the twin crimes. As an antidote to the irritating hysterics of Starksy and Hutch, the two might have served well enough, had they in their turn been served by a script and a direction which made some sense of their activities.

As it was, the plot seemed to have been chopped up into small pieces and arranged arbitrarily to form nothing more than a length of celluloid. Indeed, one might have been forgiven for guessing that the bits had been discovered upon the cutting-room floor by a cleaning lady who had then gummed them together and un-

loaded the result upon Barlech Television in exchange for 50

Weights. As for the star detective, he popped up here and there in these disconnected sequences and did nothing at all except stare quizzically into the middle distance until such time as it became necessary for him to rattle off this solution in the dying seconds. All very odd. Surely, mystery, tension, atmosphere would have been immeasurably enhanced by having the plot slowly revealed through the eyes of, say, a baffled bystander.

Mind, it might not have made good television, even then. The tube is not the best medium for the subtleties for which short detective fiction calls. Were the writer, Julian Bond, to adapt it for the printed page, however, he could well be on a winner.

LSO/Kubelk Festival Hall

Joan Chissell

Instead of the traditional overture, concerto and symphony, Rafael Kubelick chose just Brahms's last two symphonies for his concert with the LSO on Sunday.

"Old fashioned kind of music" was the phrase overheard from a stranger in the row behind. By the same token, Kubelick could have been described as an old fashioned, or at any rate old world kind of conductor. His tempo was unhurried, his phrasing was expansive, and instead of going for high melodic gloss he favoured an unusually full sonority with plenty of middle and bass.

There was a rock-like firmness of structure without rigidity, and equally an inner glow very different from the over-intense, highly strung *espressivo* often meted out to this composer by those young advocates anxious to prove that he was the antithetical monster evoked by Hugo Wolf in an infamous review of the Third Symphony. Brahms's *Eroica* was how Richter more fittingly described it after conducting the premier, for never did the composer test his *freier aber froh* motto more searchingly before reaching that *F* major haven at the end.

Since Brahms's scoring was scarcely ever more Wagnerian than in this last movement, perhaps Mr Kubelick could have been more attentive to balance here to extract greater sensuous beauty. In the first movement's last big climax, too, he allowed the brass to overpower the main motif in the strings. But the glorious theme for violins at the end of the slow movement could not have been more richly sung. The Allegretto became unburied, was unconsciously nostalgic.

The *E* minor symphony brought keen contrasts between mellow lyricism and peremptory challenge in the first movement, a golden sonata in the Andante, well sprung rhythm in the third movement and a generously characterized but integrated sequence of variations in the finale.

The future? "It's not something I really think about much: of course I worry that there aren't so many parts for 50-year-olds."

Sheridan Morley

A Good Night's Sleep Adelphi

Judith Cruickshank

There may be differences of opinion about Wayne Sleep's merits as a classical stylist; as to his abilities as an entertainer there can be none. In Sunday's gala at the Adelphi, held in aid of the Friends of the Parent-Teacher Association, he was not only co-producer and linkman, but appeared in no fewer than seven items.

These ranged from Balanchine's *Tarantella*, in which he partnered a sparkling Lesley Collier, to a new Ashton party piece, *Tweedledum and Tweedledee* with Graham Fletcher as Dum and Collier as Alice. A lovely trio this, in which Ashton has caught the true flavour of Lewis Carroll and transformed it into dance.

Sleep also appeared in a solo from Nijinsky's ballet *Le Train Bleu*, created in 1924 for Anton Dolin, who taught it to Sleep. It is a mixture of virtuosic steps and acrobatics. Fiendishly difficult to dance, I imagine, it makes one long to see the whole ballet.

The programme included two other revivals of early works: Ninette de Valois's *Pride* performed by Marina Gieglud and Pavlova's *Dragonfly* solo, ravishly danced by Margaret Barberi. But the main event of

the evening was the London premiere of a new Ashton *pas de deux* to the music of Offenbach's ballet, *Le Papillon*.

Ashton has ignored the complex plot of the original and has made a charming romantic *pas de deux* evoking the period of the Second Empire. Beautifully danced by Marie Park, it makes full use of her lightness, her sure technique and sense of style. Partnering her, Wayne Eastling seems 'less secure', and Julia Trevelyan Oman's rather fuzzy costume does not flatter him.

But not all the dancers came from the Royal Ballet and not all the performers were dancers. London Contemporary Dance Theatre was represented by Robert North and Linda Gibbs in a *pas de deux* from Robert Cohen's *Nymphs*, and the musical by Peter Siniawski and Nick Croxford from *A Chorus Line*.

Derek Jacchi shared the announcing with Wayne Sleep, while Penelope Keith brought a new look to *The Evening Doin*, who taught it to Sleep. It is a mixture of virtuosic steps and acrobatics. Fiendishly difficult to dance, I imagine, it makes one long to see the whole ballet.

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Conference of the Birds

The Story of Peter Brook in Africa John Heilpern

"As enthralling a piece of reportage as I have ever read." —Irving Wardle, *The Times*.

"A beautifully detailed and evocatively written account of people embroiled in a genuine search for new values." —Charles Marowitz, *The Sunday Times*.

"Compulsively readable, as richly absorbing as a novel, it is as much about life as about theatre." —James Roose-Evans, *Hampstead & Highgate Express*.

"Just as a travel yarn this is a good book... It also offers a sharp-edged humorous portrait of Brook as guru, father-figure, showman and sage." —John Barber, *The Daily Telegraph*.

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Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

The Times Special Reports

Hitachi present
 ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
 in a Silver Jubilee Presentation Concert

In the presence of H.R.H. Prince of Wales, Duchess of Gloucester
 Promoted Classical Music Series
 Concerts at Royal Festival Hall, London

Concerts at Royal Festival Hall, London

All UK airlines should buy British wherever possible

Mr Michael Marshall (Arundel, C):—We shall look forward to what he has to say on Thursday on these matters. He is being coy about the fact that he has said he will try to make a statement before Christmas on what he intends to do, if necessary postponing some of the longer-term decisions for a second and later statement?

Mr Varley:—I will consider that.

Later Mr Crawford unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate on this subject, but he failed, appeared to be acting in panic and could, through clumsiness, put at risk 6,000 jobs directly associated with steel in Scotland and a total of 12,000 to 15,000, including those indirectly associated.

British Airways and all other airlines, including the privately-owned airline on which I flew to Teesside on an American plane. Mr Ross Stainton made his statement in New York after flying there on not only the greatest British plane ever built but also the greatest by any aircraft industry.

Mr Robert Askey (Christchurch, New Zealand), C.-C. and C. said that Mr Stainton does not know if his own company officials are talking to British Airways about the BAC111. It is much more likely that they are playing continuous bluff in order to extract from the Government a subsidy in return for an instruction to buy British, which British Airways could do anyway.

Mr Stainton—That is a question for the Government.

Mr Ross Stainton—The negotiations with Stainton and I am sure that at a time he reports to me that the intentions will be by British, the conversations will be even more amicably

Fresh effort needed to improve handling of EEC legislation

to conduct negotiations with foreign powers, in the EEC or not. If he was told he could not agree to the terms of the House, he would go through a certain procedure.

One remedy lay in the guillotine. If MPs were to have proper time to debate these matters, the Government would be squeezed on something else. Other business would have to be squeezed. The House should move towards more frequent use of the guillotine on such occasions. This would remove the temptation to waste time.

Mr Bryan Gough (Southampton Test, Lab) said that time was already made available for the Government. He was only asking that they should be made more effective.

Even if the result were a delay

the price to be paid for demeracy over what should be the price and what taxes should be paid on the profits.

Sir David Renton (Huntingdonshire, C), for the Opposition, said that now that Britain had severed her ties with the EEC, the members of the EEC and the working of its institutions the time had come for her to learn more diplomatic skills. He said that the Government should improve their procedures and enable the Commons and other national institutions to work in a network of liaison, cooperation, scrutiny and influence.

Harmonization was being overdone, he said. There were too many harmonization laws being passed. Harmonization was going when it brought countries up to the standard of the best, but it was not going when it was a concession which was based on United Kingdom legislation.

Mr Michael Foot, Lord President of the Council, said that the House (Ebbw Vale, Lab), said it was not the Government had sought to meet the needs of the country.

Market share position of British Leyland 'extremely serious'

and planning arrangements with British Leyland, they have participation arrangements agreed during the time of the Ryder report. Some of the arrangements have been made privately, some of the trade unions at the plants are not taking part. I hope they will.

Mr. Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch) asked the Minister to explain to the chairman that the House voted funds for British Leyland on the Ryder plan. If that plan is now changed, will the Government events, it will be necessary to come back to the House again for the money?

Mr. Varley—The National Enterprise Board will receive British Leyland's corporate plan around the time of the year. It will be for the Government to decide whether Sir Keith Joseph, chief Opposition spokesman on industry (Leeds, 1974), is right in the light of the difficulties for British Leyland's steel, ships and aeroplanes, does he still believe in Clause Four?

Mr. Varley—He ought to do a bit more research. The Labour Party manifestos and he will see that the only aspect of those manifestos that has not been fulfilled, the nationalisation of British industry, is the point raised by Mr. Listerick.

way that this is applied in the legislation.

They will also make a preliminary assessment of further aspects of competition policy, including restrictive trading practices, and possible changes in the institutions governing competition policy, notably fusion of the competition and prices policy institutions.

Manpower Services Commission changes

Mr Bruce Grocott (Lichfield and Tamworth, Lab)—To ask the Secretary of State what changes he proposes to make in the regional organisation in England of the Department of Employment and Manpower Services Commission.

Mr Albert Booth—On December 1, 1977, the Department of Employment regional directors in England will be replaced by regional manpower services directors (RMSDs) of the Manpower Services Commission, appointed with MS approval.

These RMSDs will represent

Criminal libel charges against journalists

charges alists

young people and murder of one of my constituents, should be allowed out of jail after two years and manage to persuade a magistrate to imprison three journalists and lay criminal libel charges against two others whose only crime was that they were responsible for exposing the Cleeves racket.

Mr Skidde—The second part is sub judice and I cannot comment.

Reform of the libel law is a matter for the Lord Chancellor and the Home Secretary. On this particular aspect of it, there are conflicting recommendations from the committee on defamation and the Royal Commission on the Press. They are being considered.

both itself and the MSC in their contacts with the authorities. The Government is planning to encourage employers, unions and the regional representatives of other Government departments to co-operate.

They will have general oversight of the development and operation of Manpower Services Commission schemes in the regions. The MSC will take direct control of some special programmes for young people.

There will be seven RMSDs, one each for the Northern, North-west, Yorkshire and Humberside and South-west economic planning regions. There will be three WMSDs, Midlands and East Midlands EFRs, one for London who will be the representative for the South-east, and one for the South-east, South-east and East Angles who will be the representative for the Thames Valley.

The Department of Employment at regional level will continue to administer the temporary employment subsidy, the young person employment subsidy, the small firm employment subsidy and the job release scheme; the race relations advisory service; the redundancy and insolvency payments and the maternity pay fund; wages inspection; employment agency inspection; the National Vocational Qualifications; the National Training Fund; and to exercise central Government responsibility in relation to the local education authority careers service.

Preliminary talks on next year's EEC farm prices

Energy ministers are expected to discuss the energy situation in the Community and in the progress on the establishment of Community energy policy objectives for 1985; nuclear questions; support for joint hydrocarbon exploration projects; financial aid to demonstration projects; and a directive on the establishment of a common market likely to resume their consideration of refining problems within the Community; financial measures to promote the use of coal for electricity generation; and aid for financial stricken stocks of coal.

Foreign ministers will consider certain external fisheries matters, and the continuation of negotia-

cases

munity investments in transport infrastructure projects; and hijacking and terrorism. They will also follow up the United Kingdom Presidency initiative on the common transport policy with a discussion on the future programme of work on transport subjects.

Social affairs ministers will consider Commission proposals on youth employment. They may also formally adopt the texts on the review of the Social Fund.

At the end of the meeting, members states will take place in Brussels on December 13. This is not a formal meeting of the Commission, but it is a meeting of informal decisions, but is a meeting arranged within the framework of the Council to give health ministers an opportunity to exchange views on common problems.

This was a matter that touched on the power of the House of Commons. It was one of the most sensitive series of points and that sense it touched on the representation of the people. It was of major importance that they should make a first effort to see whether they could get a better arrangement of the House of Commons, the procedures of the House and that of the Common Market.

That was the meaning of the first part of the speech. The general secretary of the Labour Party (Mr. Harewood) was saying:

The Government are having a first examination of the whole of these procedures. He hoped it would not be too long before they would be in a position to make proposals on how they might make a first approach to the main

Manpower Services Commission changes

bership of 16, but the smallest number of MPs represented most shades of opinion in relation to the issue. The Committee would then have been able to determine whether documents coming to light were of political or legal significance.

Debates on European matters should take place in the House in good time before the Committee came to its conclusion in the Council of Ministers. This would enable them to take the views of MPs into account at the final stages of negotiations were reached.

They should have proper debates, not of one-sided propaganda, but of the exchange of views on treaty instruments and no differences from them. There were many matters of great importance and significance which should be discussed for Commons debate. If they were in the shape of a parliamentary question, they would be rushed aside with 30 minutes debate.

The Committee needed substantial terms of reference or there would be no basis for the Committee on European Affairs. They would then be able to combine the work of scrutiny, which is the traditional role of the House, with discussion on major issues, with discussion on major

Figures showed that in the main the Government had carried out their promise that they would not agree to matters in Brussels before they had been debated in the House, although to take account of extreme circumstances there was a loophole to enable a minister make such an agreement.

In the last session there was a proposal concerning animal husbandry and there were four or five fishermen who were determined to decide in favour of a proposal and they explained the matter to the House afterwards.

The Government would consider Mr. Spearing's resolution and so whether they could come back to the House with recommendations which went some way towards meeting it.

The debate was adjourned.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.50. Preparation in committee on Scotland Bill. Motion on Finance Bill. Motion on Industry Bill. Finance Bill. Motion on Industry Bill. Finance Bill. Motion on Industry Bill.

House of Lords

Today at 2.50. Motion on Scotland Bill. Motion on Finance Bill. Motion on Industry Bill. Finance Bill. Motion on Industry Bill.

Science report

What, then, is the purpose of gene inserts and by what process are they removed by the time the messenger RNA is formed? There are several possible solutions to this question, but which one, if any, is the correct one will require an experimental answer. To be sure, it is rather difficult even to suggest why the inserts are present in the first place. One possibility raised by Professor Jacob and his son in the same issue of *Nature* is that it is to the inserts that specific proteins become attached to, providing a mechanism for turning genes on and off.

Professor Williams, a member of the Genetic Manipulation Advisory Group, which examines all British genetic engineering work, remarks that RNA also points out that the complexities of decoding chromosomal messages of higher organisms, as now disclosed by the discovery of gene inserts, are such that it is unlikely that bacteria could decode animal genes. He says it should be possible to dispel a good deal of concern that is centred on the worry that bacteria might be able to decode the genes for toxic substances that are put into the bacteria in the course of genetic engineering.

By Nature-Times News Service
Source: *Nature* 24 Nov (1270, 31, 1977)
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1977

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Biology: Su

DNA codes directly for the sequence of chemical building blocks in the protein.

would not turn out to be true for higher organisms. But there was no way of checking that because of the lack of appropriate techniques. Recently, however, with the advent of genetic engineering with recombinant DNA, it has become possible to investigate the ways in which genes are strung out upon chromosomes. As a result, techniques for chickens and man. So far only three particular genes have been studied and in each case, against all expectations, it has emerged that the chromosomal DNA coding for the gene is not arranged as a continuous sequence.

The particular example reported in *Nature* concerns the gene of the chicken that codes for the protein ovalbumin, one of the major proteins in egg white, and is the world

Science report

of Dr. Pierre Chambon and his colleagues, R. Breznitz and J. L. Maudet, at Strasbourg University. To study the gene, they began with the molecule that represents the first read-off from the DNA itself: cellular messenger RNA. In the normal running of the cell, messenger RNA is copied directly from the DNA of the gene, and then translated into ovalbumin.

Dr. Chambon and his colleagues, however, used the RNA they had collected to make a DNA copy of

the message. The copy DNA was then reproduced by genetic engineering in sufficient quantity to be radioactively labelled and used as a "probe" to identify the

matching sequences in DNA pieces isolated from the chromosomes. Instead of attaching itself to a single piece of chromosomal DNA, the probe hybridized to several pieces found to stick to four different locations. That implies that the DNA sequence, containing the instructions for synthesizing orabinomycin, is not a continuous sequence but is composed of segments separated by sequences of DNA at least three times.

The interrupting sequences have been named inserters or spacers. Their lengths vary, but one in the orabinomycin sequence is 1000 bp, the total length of the coding sequence itself. Results to be published by at least three other laboratories before the end of the year suggest that these inserters are not peculiar to the orabinomycin gene and may even be the norm.

very on genes

Professor Williamson, a member of the Genetic Manipulation Ad-

lory Group, which examines the British genetic engineering with regard to DNA, also points out that the complexities of decoding the chromosomal messages of higher organisms, as now disclosed by the discovery of gene fossils, are such that it is unlikely that bacteria could decode animal genes. In this case it should be possible to dispel a good deal of concern that is centred on the worry that bacteria might be able to decode the genes for toxic substances inadvertently put into the bacteria in the course of genetic engineering.

By Nature-Times News Service
Source: *Nature* 24 May (270, 314, 1977)

C. Nature-Times. News. Service
1977:



Detailed financial and operating information is discussed at Work Group Meetings at ICI's Grangemouth Works.

'Effective management has to become a shared objective.'

Geoffrey Richards, ICI



The ICI interview with Robert Heller

Today, worker participation is the subject of intense political and industrial controversy. Since its formation in 1926, ICI has believed that effective consultation is at the root of good industrial relations, and a Joint Consultation System has been set up to ensure that the views of employees at all levels, whether factory or office staff, are known before important decisions are taken.

But how does the system work at grass roots, where the organisation has been left deliberately flexible?

Robert Heller, Editor of 'Management Today', asks Geoffrey Richards, Manager of ICI's Grangemouth works, how he has set about improving participation on his large complex site.

Heller: Do you regard it as practicable, with a workforce of nearly 2,000, to involve people in important decisions that you as a manager have to make?

Richards: Yes, I do. One of the priorities in industry must be to find ways of taking employees' views into account before major decisions are taken. Obviously the larger the unit the more problems

there are. At Grangemouth we're making a large number of complex chemicals - everything from dyestuff to pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals, and the number of people engaged in each process is correspondingly small. In effect they form natural work groups of between six and ten people, including the appropriate supervisor and junior manager. Other work groups involve office staff too. What we decided to do was to involve all these small groups in consultation.

Heller: And this makes it easier to obtain improved working relationships?

Richards: One thing I've learned is that you often get better results by discussing problems and jointly evolving ways of doing things with the people concerned. Because then people have ownership of the system, which is terribly important. They want to make it work.

Heller: What kind of information do they get?

Richards: Well, for instance, at Works Committee and Staff meetings I will tell them how well we

are doing compared with our budget and previous performance. Not only that, but we discuss their own particular area of business, and the performance of their Division or ICI as a whole.

Heller: Do employees themselves contribute a great deal?

Richards: Oh yes. They come up with plenty of ideas. For example, in the 1975 recession we got together to work out how to cope with reduced demand without having to lay people off, and without damaging the business. Joint groups have helped to solve all sorts of problems - from local matters like the introduction of a better shift system to national issues like whether the company should or should not opt out of the state pension system.

Heller: How have your employees reacted to all this?

Richards: On the whole, very well. But inevitably there are problems, because we're all learning. The shop stewards are learning about some of the management's problems - about economics, the real uncertainties in the business world, and so on. And managers are getting a deeper understanding of shop stewards' problems - that they have what is in effect a managerial role to perform in their own organisations. It's a very important mutual learning process.

Heller: Some people argue that what's really wrong with British industry is bad communication between management and work people. Do you think that's true?

Richards: Communication becomes much more effective if people can say, "Well I see that affects me. Now we can talk about problems together and do something about them". Effective management has to become a shared objective.

Heller: Has the works derived any concrete, measurable benefit from the introduction of Work Groups?

Richards: Yes. Output per capita has grown at roughly twice our rate of the mid-sixties, and the rate of profitability and therefore investment has increased quite markedly.



'The rate of investment and profitability has increased quite markedly,' explains Geoffrey Richards to Robert Heller.

Heller: Finally, do you ever hanker for the simpler days when all decisions were taken by management alone?

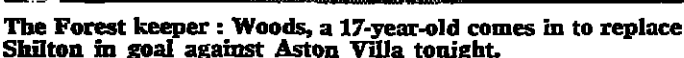
Richards: No. That sort of simplicity would no longer work. People's needs and expectations have changed quite markedly over the years. Above all, running a works is a pragmatic business. One of the fascinations of my job is that the whole process of involvement is going to go on developing - at least for my lifetime.



A control room at ICI's Grangemouth plant.

Ideas in action





By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

[illegible]

Auckland, Nov. 28.—Heavy seas have battered yachts in the later stages of the 7,400 mile Capetown to Auckland leg of the Round the World race.

The crew of the British yacht, *Kings Legend*, which was the third to arrive here, have been pumping water from the aft section of the boat for two weeks. Two firebrigas experts will be sent to help repair cracks near the rudder.

Meanwhile, the 65 foot Swiss ketch, *Disque D'or*, was today the second to arrive at its second stage of the four-leg race.

The first boat to arrive was the 77 foot British ketch's Condor on November 17.

Following it was the 90 foot motorboat, *Britania*'s 70 foot Great Britain II arrived in second position Saturday. King's Legend followed as the fourth-owned flyer arrived yesterday.

The European Common Market secretary, Trainé de Roene, is not due to leave until tomorrow morning. He is expected to take over the post of race leader on handicap, according to last reports.

The British ADO Accurat, skippered by John Burt Foster, rounded the northern tip of New Zealand early yesterday.

Behind her the 55 foot British ketch, *Albatross*, still 300 miles from the Northern Cape.

The starting date for the third leg of the race to Rio de Janeiro will be decided after the arrival of the next yacht.

Auckland.—Reuter.

Madrid, Nov. 28.—The world heavyweight champion, Muhammad Ali, has agreed to fight the winner of his World Boxing Council (WBC) title at the WBC's annual convention opening here tonight.

Ali said he would accept the offer for an extension of a WBC deadline to meet the number one contender, Ken Norton, has met with a varied response in council circles and a lively debate is expected.

Norton is expected to argue that the convention is persons to attend, that Ali is coming to avoid a match against him and to demand he be stripped of the heavyweight title.

Ali's manager, Bob Arum, said December 31 this year to arrange a bout with Norton, after Norton beat Jimmy Young earlier this year to become the contender.

But Ali has asked for an extension until February 15, arguing he has already met Norton three times, beating him twice and wants to give other boxers a chance.

Council sources said the convention was only to grant the extension, but was the warning that Ali would lose his title if he did not sign to meet Norton by February 15.

Some council members feel that Ali has been shirking his duties

New York, Nov. 28.—The

Caen, Nov. 26.—Southampton Athletic Club won the team event at an international cross-country meeting here yesterday. The nine runners (5.6 miles) were: Isaac Attie, winner, of Portugal. Britain's Neil Copland finished fourth.—**Reporter.**

Close beats champion
Melbourne, Nov. 28.—Robert Cole, of England, yesterday won through to the final of the world championships when he beat the American champion, Jim Owen, of England, by 1,512 points to 1,781. Cole meets Miguel Ferreira, of India, in the final tomorrow night.—**Reporter.**

Everton, of Wales, 2,155 to 1,310.—**Reporter.**

Paddy Maguire, of Belfast, today won the team event title for the first time at the National Sporting Club, London, tonight, and some supporters believe that this will be the end of his luck for him. Owen, in Wales, where the challenger, Johnny Owen, comes from, they point to Maguire's fading record, his age (32), his long career, and the fact that he no longer presses home his attacks the way he used to.

Owen is 21 years old, unbeaten, and has his roots in the game. He is a fine comparison with Jimmy Wilde, to lose sight of the fact that he has had only nine bouts, three of them against the world champion, Jimmie Sutton, whom Maguire stopped in four rounds early this year. In

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Buffalo Sabres
New York Rangers 2; Philadelphia
Flyers 2. Los Angeles Kings 0; Boston
Bruins 4. St. Louis Blues 1; New
York Islanders 3. **Wings 1.**
WORLD ASSOCIATION: Birmingham
Bulls 3; Washington Jets 2.

Wigan Athletic, looking for yet another FA Cup run to help their chances of promotion to the Football League, have a home draw with Sheffield Wednesday, while the second round on December 17. It is a fitting reward for their first round defeat of York City, a victory which was secured Saturday. At least one non-league side will go into the last with the first and second division clubs in the next round for Nuneaton Town, who will be away at an all-Southern League fixture. Middleshead await the result of

The reply between Newport and the Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Football Association was that the hopes of a crowd far bigger than the 1,050 who saw them beat Wycombe Wanderers on Saturday, September 10, were being made by the fact that the Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Football Association were making the short journey. Southend showed quite what to expect from the Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Football Association, also, of the Southern League. They made the same journey, and the Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Football Association were making the short journey. In 1974-75 competition and won 2-1. Enfield's prize for their first season was a Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Football Association trophy.

trip to Northampton. Enfield ended a 77-year wait with their 3-0 victory over Wimbledon and now travel to a ground with a long record of success. Enfield's secretary, said: "We hoped for a better draw than that. We would have preferred a draw, but I suppose it could have been worse."

Incentives for non-league sides facing midweek replays include a £1000 bonus for each side at Weymouth, if they can beat Gillingham tomorrow, and a home tie against Reading for Weststone if they beat Hereford the following Wednesday. Enfield at Reading in the first round last season, losing 1-0 and having two men sent off. Their manager, Peter Smith, said: "We will be in our front line, Wednesday's replay

"The qualification period for this stage of the competition is 14 days. Therefore, if our information is correct, we cannot expect to play." Glover, former Charlton Athletic and Leicester City winger, recently returned to England after playing for Tampa Bay Rowdies in the United States. Kettering team that knocked out Hitchin in the previous round.

Kettering's secretary, Maurice Munn, said: "We have been out of the blue. Nothing was said at Tilbury on Saturday when relations between our officials and theirs were very bad. I'd have not said any more until I'd heard from Tilbury." A spokesman for the FA said: "We have yet to hear anything official from either side. If we do, we will investigate."

AP Leamington v Southend.
Bath v Plymouth v Cambridge United.
Barnet v Tottenham v Chesterfield.
Boreham Wood v Swindon v Brentford.
Carlisle v Chester.
Crewe v Scarborough.
Gillingham v Weymouth v Peterborough.
Grimsby v Barnet.
Middlesbrough v Newport v Exeter.
Northampton v Southend.
Oxford v Kidderminster.
Portsmouth v Leatherhead v Swansea.
Preston v Wrexham.
Rushden v Rushmore.
Shrewsbury v Stockport.
Tranmere v Hartlepool v Southport v Runcorn.
Walsley v Grimsby v Port Vale.
Watford v Colchester v Bournemouth.
Widestone v Hereford v Reading.
Wigan v Sheffield Wednesday.
Ties to be played on December 17.

Walsh not for sale, Brown tells McGarry | **Allison flies to Memphis to discuss offer**

He also squashed rumours that he would be interested in bringing Burns back from Newcastle to Bloomfield Road in a swap deal. "Bill McClelland was a trial for the first division, but we have to keep our best players to get wins there."

Today's fixtures

LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: Arsenal v Hull City (7.50); Derby v West Brom. (7.50); Ipswich v Tottenham (7.50); Manchester City (7.30); Liverpool v Manchester United (7.50); Norwich v Queens Park Rangers (7.50); Sheffield Wednesday v Aston Villa (7.50); Sheffield Wednesday v Tottenham (7.50).

FA CUP: First round: Ipswich v Southend (7.50); Luton v Colchester (7.50); Southend v Colchester (7.50); Tottenham v Luton (7.50).

FLYING DUTCHMAN 15.15: Tottenham v Luton.

[illegible]

**Little will
bring**

is world champion by meeting lower-ranked boxers and avoiding the danger of international criticism. He believes that his value to boxing is so great he should be allowed to choose his own opposition.

Joe Sulaiman, said: "The point is we all understand the man—he's done an immeasurable amount for boxing and he's got a reputation. We can let him join some around fighting whom he likes when he likes. He's got a right to do that. He might be number one contender, otherwise he'd have the meaning of the word champion."

But he also considers the perennial problem of relations with boxing's other administrative authority, the World Boxing Association (WBA).

Mr Sulaiman said: "Frankly I'm tired of the WBA—they aren't a professional agency as the European, British and Commonwealth and African boxing federations are only affiliated to the B.A. But we need two organisations we can't properly regulate ethics and morals which are essential to box-

Melbourne, Nov 28.—Evyonne Cawley increased her earnings to more than 40,000 dollars in eight months by winning the 1974 women's final at Kooyong today. She took only 44 minutes to dispose of her fellow Australian, Wendy Watson.

Miss Cawley said after the match that the delays had made her edgy.

"But I still felt good once I got on the ring. I was nervous at first but how easy it all was," she said.

Miss Turnbull said that the slippery grass helped the referee's decision.

"I was a bit worried but I was afraid to run because I was worried that I might slip and injure myself," she said.

The match started two hours late because of rain and, although the court was covered overnight, it was too dark to play. The match ended as the two finalists were warming up. Once the match started Miss Cawley, who won a 12-10 victory, was in control. She left no doubt that she was back to her best form. She needed only 17 punches to win the fight.

More than 1,000 spectators who braved the cold, wet conditions.

New Zealand's 14-year-old American schoolgirl who played at the

Two top players out of South African event

Maguire has been having hard bouts for a long time because that is his style. It took him until late 1975 to win the British title and he has not defended it since. He has not been able to get a world championship at his first attempt in January 1976 but he was well beaten when he tried again this September. It was one of three losses in a row in six months. The light, the class of opposition was lighter than anything Owen has beaten.

It is possible that Owen's long-revered punching and his obsession about winning could prove too much for Maguire. Equally, the little Irishman has a lot of things to say about everything and he is not going to start now. So it could be a hard contest and should go 15 rounds.

Journalism, Nov. 23, 1976
By Dave Karger
Boris Becker, of the United States, withdrew from the South African open today. In cables to the tournament director, Owen Williams, South African Sports Commission secretary, said that Becker, 22, and fourth respectively, gave injuries as the reasons.

Mr Williams said he also feared the withdrawal of a Chilean, Hans Gildemeister, who had cabled saying the Chilean Tennis Federation had instructed him to play in the Pan American tournament at the same time as the South African open. "But Gildemeister said he would rather compete here. He has asked the Chilean Tennis Federation to let him train from that commitment."

The top six seeds are: Vilas, Dubs, Steu, Smith, Filiti, Borowick and Mottram—AP.

The chief coach, Don Wilson (right) and his assistant, Kevin Brooks, at the new indoor cricket school which was opened at Lord's last night.

English cricket authorities, after their defeat in the Highgate Test, will consider what future action to take when the Test and County Cricket Board hold their winter meeting. The authorities may not make a decision about the future of the county system or whether to support the first-class cricket which they will have to consult the International Cricket Council.

As they are willing to put £50,000 into a championship of champions tournament, to be competed for by the winners of the county championships, the Joint Player Council will be asked to support Benson and Hedges competitions, which will be the main attraction. There is a proposal to rename the county championship to the Benson and Hedges Cup.

will back England's selectors and the players. They agreed. The assurance came yesterday from the chairman of the county boards. He stressed that his company was pledged to support the county game at the highest level for the next five years. "I am sure," he said, "that the 'all round' whatever decision is best for the

There may be a new indoor cricket ground in the near future. The suggestions for a short tournament before the season starts. The idea is to have a one-day event to meet under one roof, for two or three days of competitive play. The idea is to have a one-day event to meet under one roof, for two or three days of competitive play. The idea is to have a one-day event to meet under one roof, for two or three days of competitive play.

Rawalpindi, Nov 28.—Fast bowling in Pakistan is a notoriously perilous occupation but, if hard work is rewarded by success, Bob Willis can change all that during his tour of the country. The 31-year-old England player arrived here last Friday. Willis has pushed himself through a training schedule that is normally associated with a Test match before a major tour.

Cricket Correspondent Melbourne, Nov 28

A "water grave" by Peter Thomson, the headline in *The Age*, above an article by Thomson, five times winner of the Ashes, is a good example of the referred to by Mr Kerry Packer's cricketing enterprise but to the *Age* and the *Advertiser* where he has promoted the last two Australian Open championships will only be a footnote before his contract with the Australian Cricket Board is terminated.

considerable benefit of his country. Nine years ago he manipulated the game of cricket in the same sort of way but today he is a man who has made a fortune. Greg Chappell, in a newspaper article that is a result of last year's tour of Australia, said that the Australian Cricket Board should now consider their Packer players as a liability rather than an asset, selection, as and when they are available, is unlikely to come to any good.

For contractual reasons anyone

[illegible][illegible]

Wills will need plenty of work on the field, and he is a pleasantly exciting type of golf into a course which only the best players on a good day can cope with. The 1937 champion of Birmingham, the artificial water hazards at the Australian Golf club are fast proving a real test for the best club members.

Mr Packer is due, therefore, in a year's time, for a further bargaining session with Australian and English clubs, and it is no doubt that the best thing for the second to Bob Shearer in a tour-

and black sight screen

[illegible][illegible]

By Peter West
Bucks Correspondent

Wagdy Correspondence
Paul Jackson, a Black Blue, who had a carriage accident only 15 days ago, has made such a remarkably swift recovery that he has been included on the left wing in the Cambridge XV to play Oxford in the university rugby match at Twickenham on December 6. Alastair Hignell, the captain and England full back, who returned to the side last Saturday after many weeks absence, has confirmed his fitness to play.

All this means that Hignell has been able to pick what he considers to be the strongest side, although Parker has still hesitated to prove his fitness. Parker had an outing with his college second XV yesterday and apparently came through it without incident.

The nominated side shows two changes from the XV who achieved a most heartening victory over Harlequins and included O'Callaghan, an All Blacks' wing, who missed that game with a minor injury. Returns on the right flank: he and Hignell will be playing in their fourth union match. Parker comes in for Ian Greg, brother of Tony, on the other

Greig, a good footballer who has played at centre and, for three games, on the wing, must count himself unlucky. Cambridge obviously are concerned about the lack of ability of Gareth Davies, the Oxford stand-off half, and they know that Parkes will be a performer against such tactics.

Joe Davies, a Welshman, who has been deprived of a place at scrum half in recent seasons by Richard Harries and John Lewis, at last attains his objective. In the centre. He has moved to that position with encouraging results since John Robbie, an Irish international, arrived on the scene to embellish affairs at scrum half. Davies had little chance of winning the scrum half position in favour of Robbie, but he has such outstanding talent, but it speaks much for his abilities as a stout-baller that he has been able to

Mark Hornier seemed to have recovered from a jaw injury to mount a strong challenge for a centre position in the third row. But, as the result of concussion in a recent outing cannot even play for the club against the Oxford Greyhounds. If anyone deserves sympathy, it is this little fellow. He has missed his chance of a Blue in three successive seasons.

On the other side the leaver, there will be pleasure to the flanker, Stead, who missed his chance of a Blue in the last two seasons. The new recruit, Henry, has scaled the last mountain, like Xenophon, and seen the blue

Joan's), M. K. Fosh (Harrow and Madeline), P. W. G. Parer (Collier's and St Catherine's); J. N. F. Breakey (Fettes and Christ's); J. C. Robbie (Dunbar and Christ's); R. S. Broome (Glenalmond and North Glasgow); J. G. Triggs (Trinity); K. F. Goughran (Gonzaga College, Dublin, and King's); P. A. V. Shaw (Queen Elizabeth GS, Wakefield, and Downing); J. N. Ford (Millfield and Emmanuel); N. R. M. Heath (Sollihol and Downing); E. J. Stead (Ray and Selwyn); R. T. Burgess (Magna Carta, Fettes and

OXFORD: K. Hopkins (Maseang
 Convictive, St Edmund Hall);
 Hall): R. Boolahan (Reigate GS
 and St Edmund Hall), T. A.
 Bryan (Hampton GS and St
 Edmund Hall), Edmund R. Ed-
 dinga (Belmont Abbey and St
 Edmund Hall), D. C. Willis
 (Haberstades, Aske's and Wor-
 cestershire), G. C. Davies (Gwend-
 esburgh GS and St Catherine's),
 J. Faktor (Laymer Upper and Uni-
 versity) * R. C. Horne (Emmanuel
 Hall), J. Light (Leigh School,
 School, Pexham and St Ed-
 mund Hall), T. F. Evelevdon (RGS
 Newcastle and Bressnall), R. C.
 Robinson (Oundle and Lincoln),
 K. A. Benge (St Albans and Uni-
 versity), D. Mitchell (University of
 Cape Town and St Catherine's),
 M. J. P. Motr (Ampleforth and
 G Lincoln),
 College, Cape Town and Uni-
 versity). Replacements: E. Quist-
 arcton (King's College, Taunton,
 and Ekeb), J. Thomas (Colston
 School, Bristol), K. J.
 Robinson (Otago University and
 Worcester), J. Coleman (Sher-
 borne and St John's), P. Wood-
 head (Bradford) and G. C. Finch
 (Maseang School, Stroud,
 and Queens).

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Abbot B 7:10

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Terrorist groups cash in on anything from illegal drink to protection money

How organized crime buys arms and pays 'social security' to Ulster gunmen

In recent months life has changed for hardened drinkers on both the fiercely republican Falls Road and the nearby loyalist stronghold of the Shankhill. No longer can Provisional IRA volunteers (many under 17) enjoy the dubious pleasure of visiting sleazy illegal clubs with money like "The Sweedie Bottle", "Dr Hook's" and "The Zebra Crossing", while Protestant members of the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force have found their regular haunts, like the Long Bar and the Bayardo, closed down for the first time since the present crisis began.

Unusually for Northern Ireland, the reason has not been recent bomb attacks, but rather the newfound determination of the Royal Ulster Constabulary to crack down against aspects of organized crime which have flourished in parts of the province. Since August, more than £50,000 worth of liquor has been seized from a variety of illegal "shebeens" in Belfast, ranging from derelict houses with improvised counters to fully-fledged social clubs complete with gaming machines.

As well as providing fertile recruiting grounds for paramilitary groups on both sides of the sectarian divide, the unlicensed clubs were also a valuable source of income for terrorists and often a cause of serious social unrest in the areas concerned. The ready supply of cheap drink combined with unrestricted opening hours contributed to a steady increase in alcoholism and related ills such as wife and baby battering.

For an area with virtually no record of organized crime seven years ago, Ulster by the



UDA men in the Shankhill Road: "welfare money" is vital.

middle of 1974 was suffering from rackets and violent crime on a scale equal to some of Europe's most notorious cities. Since that peak, the level has slowly declined because of a growing number of extremists in prison, but the security forces still acknowledge that extortion, intimidation and similar crimes exist on a wide scale. "Remember that in America, they only succeeded in jailing Al Capone on tax charges," one detective said. "Here, we often have to wait for a routine type terrorist conviction to put away people suspected of operating protection rackets."

No official estimate of the amount of money involved has been produced, but it is known to be considerable. One of the

most common rackets is the demand for regular payment in exchange for verbal guarantees that premises will not be bombed. Here the amounts can vary from £6 a week for a corner shop to upwards of £1,000 a month for large commercial concerns close to troubled areas.

In a number of recent cases, respectable businessmen are known to have negotiated the size of their "voluntary contributions" to some of the welfare funds set up to pay dependants of convicted terrorists. One Belfast industrialist who had no money at hand, offered £500 worth of cheques from his safe, and was revisited by the same gang later in the day offering to sell them back to him for £200.

Other swindles involving paramilitary groups have included the embezzlement of government money earmarked for the rehabilitation of houses in republican enclaves, wide scale theft of Giro cheques containing social security benefits, and a system whereby local breweries were swindled out of large sums being paid for the return of non-existent empty bottles. The often confusing ethics of both Protestant and Roman Catholic paramilitary groups have prevented their involvement in either drugs or the growing number of makeshift massage parlours which have largely replaced conventional prostitution.

One other business activity peculiar to Northern Ireland and widely suspected—despite

frequent denials—of close connections with the paramilitaries is the provision of the black "people's taxis" which operate in many of the ghetto areas. The first of these battered, second-hand London cabs appeared when rioting forced buses off the roads in 1971. There are now at least 500 operating in republican and loyalist districts, costing the city's bus company an estimated £1.5m a year in lost fares.

In spite of recent suggestions that a Government move against the taxis was imminent, there are strong indications that the authorities have come to recognize, however reluctantly, that they are here to stay. All are required to carry a PSV certificate and insurance from a reputable firm, making them

quite legal, if nearly impossible to compete with. Those which ply from fixed points in the Falls and Shankhill areas cram in eight or more passengers for fares of 10p and 15p. Buses, which travel more infrequently and have long been a favourite target for hijackers, will charge 13p and 26p for equivalent journeys.

While the argument will continue about the precise sources of the funds handled regularly by groups like the Provisional and Official IRA, the Ulster Defence Association and the UVF, there little doubt about what they are mainly used for. Apart from expenditure on arms, the other constant drain on cash is the established practice of making weekly payments to the dependants of convicted members. Altogether some 1,400 men and women claiming allegiance to some paramilitary group are now imprisoned in Ulster. The families of those on the republican side receive about £5 a week, while the larger Protestant group, the UDA, is known to pay out £10 a week or more.

The payment of this "welfare money" is regarded as vital by any group which hopes to continue recruiting. The security forces believe that as their clampdown on organized crime intensifies, the payments to relatives will necessarily become smaller and more irregular. In official eyes, the growing effectiveness of the war against racketeering should have important repercussions against the other forms of paramilitary activity for which Ulster has already become legendary.

Christopher Walker

Bernard Levin

The priest who should make us think again about Yugoslavia

Yugoslavia is so often presented as a country which manages to combine communism with freedom (it has just happened again with the news of the amnesty for some political prisoners) that I am obliged, from time to time, to point out that it is no such thing; it is a police state, the fact that it is less brutal than most other communist countries is true, and important, but does not alter the truth about its essential nature. A vivid illustration of that nature has come my way, and I present it today for the consideration of, among others, those who have allowed themselves to be persuaded that Tito, alone of the dictators, permits Yugoslavs who defy his rule to live in peace under it. For there is to be no amnesty in this case.

The story concerns a priest of the Serbian Orthodox Church, Father Sava Bankovic. He is 72 years old, and is the parish priest of a village called Beska, in the province of Vojvodina. At the end of the Second World War, when Tito was consolidating his power by getting rid of those who might prove a threat to it, Father Bankovic was sentenced to death on a charge of having sympathized with the Mihailovic forces. The sentence was commuted to one of 15 years imprisonment, which he served without remission. On his release, he returned to his pastoral work, in Beska. He there became noted for his resistance to the pressure of the Tito regime on the Serbian Church, and to the increasing insistence on atheism in Yugoslav society. For this, he was arrested again, in 1973, a canon of his faith, he was sentenced to four years' imprisonment, in the same prison. Conditions in it were so bad that, although Father Bankovic was 69 years old at the time of his sentence, and in poor health, he repeatedly went on hunger-strike in furtherance of his demand for more humane treatment. He was released in June this year. Meanwhile, the authorities had organized one of those spontaneous expressions of popular feeling that occur in communist countries whenever the rulers need them; this purported to express local opposition to Father Bankovic and a demand that he should not be allowed to return to his cure. (The local newspaper had reported such opposition from such notorious objective and independent bodies as the League of Communists, some two months before Father Bankovic's inevitable embarrassing release was due; three days after the expiry of his sentence, he was summoned by the head of the district's Commission for Religious Affairs and told that he was not wanted in his parish. But he has not been relieved of his parochial duties by his ecclesiastical superiors. It is worth mentioning that, at his trial in September 1973, he insisted that he had no involvement in politics, but considered himself bound as a priest to resist atheism, and was told by the presiding judge that communism and atheism are the same thing.)

Well might Tito have murmured "Will no man rid me

of this turbulent priest?" though Yugoslavia being what it is, there was no lack of those willing to engage in a campaign of harassment against Father Bankovic. Just after his release from prison he went with his wife to see off two of their grandchildren, who were leaving to undertake a course of study in Britain. (Requests for the children to be allowed to visit him in prison had been refused, so he had not seen them for four years.) As the grandparents left the bus on arrival in Belgrade, they were approached by an official of the political police, who ordered Father Bankovic to return immediately to Beska; when the priest asked them for his identification, he refused to show it, but showed a revolver instead. They went back to Beska. Later, there was another such incident, again at the Belgrade bus terminal.

In the campaign organized against him, the authorities have not hesitated to use threats; the statement demanding his return to prison was allowed to return to his post ended "If our request is not satisfied, we cannot be responsible for any repercussions which might take place". And a particularly odious form of harassment has been the arbitrarily cancelled services, depriving him of his parish work, he and his wife have no means of livelihood other than donations from parishioners in the area where there is supposed to be united opposition to his return and the like.

It is a nasty little story, and ought to (but will not) give some pause to the constant

adulation of Yugoslavia in this country by those who should know better, and in some cases actually do. It is too much, of course, to expect Church leaders here to come to the support of a Christian priest condemned for opposition to atheism; many of them are busy carrying out their own guerrilla movements in the name of the Prince of Peace, whom in any case they seem to think much inferior, as an avatar, to Mr Robert Mugabe, and I wouldn't be at all surprised to learn that one or two were planning to attend the coronation of the Emperor Bokassa, or even to officiate at it. (Besides, some of them are by no means certain that atheism is all that different from Christianity, if not indeed actually superior to it.) Nor can we hope for protests from any of the standard protest-bodies, let alone the fun-revolutionaries, who are mostly otherwise engaged, on their work of running Britain into a reasonable semblance of Yugoslavia, only not so liberal and indulgent, of course. Some Labour MPs, to be sure, might be willing to criticize Yugoslavia for her continuing suspicion of the democratic Soviet Union, but I am not sure that what I had in mind. So this column will probably be all that is said here on the subject, and Father Bankovic and his wife will continue to live in want and underground harassment, while his parishioners continue to be deprived of his ministrations. I forgot to mention, incidentally, that Yugoslavia was one of the first nations to sign the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Times Newspapers Ltd, 1977

Next from the pen of Mr Heath, a book on politics?

Since he lost the 1974 elections, Mr Heath has not into an agreeable rut. From Christmas until his far-flung summer recess he writes an illustrated book in his spare time from Parliament and Bexley. In November it is published and becomes an immediate best-seller.

In November, 1975, the book was *Sailing*, which has sold 100,000 copies in hardback, not counting the American, Australian, French, Flemish, Japanese and German editions. Last November it was *Music*, which is so far doing just a little better. This November, in case anybody should accuse him of sticking to the safe, predictable books with his customary self-explanatory titles: *Travels* and *Carols*. He writes as he speaks, without frills, with occasional ponderous but palpable sincerity.

He wrote about sailing because handladders kept on asking what he saw in the activity, and whether it bore any relation to the other things he was trying to do. He wrote about music, partly because his publishers knew

when they were on to a good thing, but principally because nobody else had written a plain man's explanation of the pleasures of good music. *Travels* is about his globe-trotting from undergraduate in Nazi Germany and Spain during the Civil War to official guest of presidents.

He explains: "By nature I am inquisitive. I like to talk to people, find out what they think at first hand, and form my own judgments. I wanted to explain to the new generation the things that influenced my generation. My travels have provided the background of the politics and ideas I have tried to pursue."

He is also a cross between a magpie and a squirrel with paper, never throwing away anything concerning what he has done in life. Trunks of his snapshots, newspaper cuttings, and other documents threaten to sink his London house and his home at Broadstairs, and make each book a laborious process of selection. He says: "I enjoy writing, but find it hard work. One of my problems is that for each book I have done I have had progres-



sively more material available. I have been sailing for only about ten years; but music and travel have been my life for 50 years."

Does he think, at his age, it is right to change so abruptly from Prime Minister to best-selling author? "I did not have the time before I was on the front bench from 1951 to 1975; and when you are on the front bench you can always think of something more to be doing instead of writing. After such a long spell writing is an opportunity think about the future. And there were things I wanted to say."

After handing in this year's manuscripts he has fitted in an

average autumn's travelling. He is just back from a very interesting week in Israel. In October he went to China and right up to Northern Manchuria, where he had never been before; then to Bucharest for talks with President Ceausescu, and on up to Moldavia to look at the exquisite frescoes on the monasteries; then to Belgrade to talk with his old friend, President Tito. Since he has returned home he has made 25 important speeches, two radio and two television broadcasts, held press conferences, and had frequent hacks besiege his gates for ritual interviews with a best-selling author.

From the writing that he has recently taken up with such remarkable success, he emerges as an insatiably curious, decent, industrious, civilized, inhibited Englishman. The understatement, the amiable amateur jokes, and the discursive reminiscences convey a certain innocence and a great enjoyment of music, architecture, food, travel,

people, and life. But do not knock the formula. There is gold in them thar skills. So what comes next November? A cautious look comes into the eyes that are a little wary in the presence of other strange scribbles: "I have finished my trilogy now. Not next year, but in due course I dare say I shall want to write a book about politics."

I should watch out for that one.

Philip Howard

Travels, by Edward Heath, Sidgwick & Jackson, £5.50. *Carols*, by Edward Heath, Sidgwick & Jackson, £3.95 and paperback £1.95.



Robert Robinson's Christmas Quiz

- Tick if yes
- Do you expect to have a happy Christmas with family or friends? ☐
 - Do you think you might over-eat just a little? ☐
 - Do you look forward to 1978? ☐
 - Do you suppose you'll keep warm at home this winter? ☐
 - Did you realise that very many old people have to say a sad "No" to all those questions? (They'll be totally alone, often in danger from cold, and in some places plain hungry). ☐
 - Would you like to bring Christmas happiness to one of them? ☐

Help another Day Centre where they find friendship (£5 or £10 does a lot). Or send Christmas meals to the hungry old folk overseas (£3 sends 15 meals, £20 sends 100). Or commemorate a dear friend this Christmas by inscribing their name on the dedication plaque of a Day Centre you help with £150.

Please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to: Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T2, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ. (No stamp needed). I would like to help an old person in urgent need. I enclose my goodwill gift of £.....

Name
Address

Not summoned by bells, but good snufflers

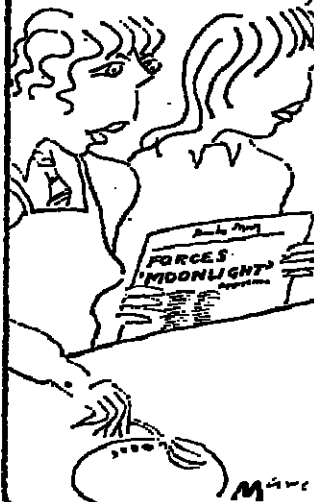
About him were hoses, fire fighters after, above him the intense red of the adjacent house of Jane Ewart-Biggs (in Radnor Walk) which had just caught fire. Thus, last week, the Poet Laureate might have waxed lyrical in the event when his morning glass of champagne with his old friend, Sir Osbert Lancaster, was interrupted by plumes of smoke from the house next door. Sir John Berghman acted swiftly and decisively.

Mrs Ewart-Biggs, the widow of our former Ambassador in Dublin, is out during the day and when, recently, her eldest daughter's top floor bedroom caught fire, the first person to spot it was Sir John. He said to Sir Osbert: "Do you smell smoke?" Sir Osbert said, definitely: "No". In the garden they therefore sorted.

Black smoke gushed from the upper window and another guest of Sir John, an agile poet in the morning, scaled the garden wall, broke into the house and opened the Ewart-Biggs' front door just as the militia, alerted on the telephone by Sir John, arrived in their Green Goddess.

The firefighters from the Irish Guards at Chelsea, confined the fire to the bedroom and snuffed it out there. Sir John then provided champagne, in the street, for firefighters, anxious neighbours and Mrs Ewart-Biggs when she returned in the luncheon hour.

Stinker, tailor, soldier, sailor; how sick-making. It's probably the same man.



The other trial

Supporters of the rulers of cricket at Lord's must have been delighted on Friday to see the *Evening Standard's* contents bills all over London which announced: "Greig's men routed in Packer trial."

Even greater must have been their dismay on finding that the bills referred, not to Mr Justice Slade's keenly awaited judgment in the London trial, in which Kerry Packer, Tony Greig and Co, far from being routed, won hands down, but to the trial in Melbourne, in which the World XI led by Greig was bowled out for 148 by an Australian XI.

Wanted: a Westminster anatomy

An insurance company, I can reveal, is putting a price on the Houses of Parliament. It has nothing to do with a wealthy oil sheikh seeking a town residence, nor is it a precautionary measure against some latter-day Guy Fawkes and the threat posed by the firemen's strike. The inquiry is being made because of a tape-recorder.

It belongs—or it did belong—to their tall Tory from Acton, Sir George Young. But it has been stolen from his office in the Palace of Westminster.

Assuringly, Sir George says: "Fortunately, there was not a tape on it, so there will be no Nixon-type revelations." But his insurance company wants to know more about it.

Filing in his claim form, Sir George was asked to answer the following questions: total value of contents of premises at time of theft; are the premises, or any part, let or sub-let; how many nights have the premises been unoccupied, during the past year; was anyone in the premises at the time of the theft; if so, please give names and addresses?

Sorely this must be a job for a joint meeting of the Government actuary, the Department of Environment and the Whips' Office.

It will be the first time since the arms ban on South Africa, imposed by the United Nations, is apparently having side-effects the moralists in New York could never have dreamed of. It would seem that imported catapults from the United States (popular in the Republic) come within the general arms embargo.

A field lover in Kenya tells me that he is no longer able to protect his ornithological friends from marauding cats because the elastic on his old catapult is broken (his story of our lives) and his suppliers—Wham-O Manufacturing of California—are unable to send him a replacement.

My South African correspondent adds that he has pointed out to the authorities that he is hardly likely to take on terrorists armed with machine guns with a catapult and a stone.

A variation on Blaze Away

Playing *con fuoco* is one thing, I said to myself, but playing *al fuoco* is surely going a bit far. I had been told that the Band of the Coldstream Guards, Royal Marines, had been ordered, with instruments, up to Strathclyde to reinforce the troops already deployed in firefighting during the firemen's strike.

The truth emerged as something somewhat less dramatic. The musical Marines are going to blaze all right, but they will be leaving their instruments back at base.

It had been the first time since flood-fighting work in the Medway towns 25 years ago that the Marines will have been used for purposes other than musical.

Elements from two other Marine bands, the Band of the Commando Training Centre and the staff band at the school of music, will also be deployed for firefighting duty. But I am assured that taking their instruments along with them will not be mandatory. It will be more a case, one might say, of trumpet voluntary.

Two musical interludes

A single guitar ensemble does not make a Prom, any more than a single swallow makes a summer, so I must be careful not to over-react. But, listening to the youthful Home Valley ensemble from West Yorkshire rehearsing Byrd's Pavane at the Albert Hall yesterday, I felt the two-day Schools Prom (last night and tonight) would be a huge success. We shall see.

A few minutes earlier, I was present at another happy occasion at the Albert Hall, also involving young music-makers. Jacqueline du Pré, in her wheelchair, received on behalf of the Malcom Sargent Cancer Fund for Children a cheque for £1,924, the proceeds of last May's Music and Youth concert organized by London's Rotarians.

I was able to exchange a few words with the stricken cellist and she left me feeling uplifted and filled with confidence about a world which, whatever else it may deprive us of, still offers the glorious gift of music and the means to enjoy it.

John Morgan Travel, specialists in villa holidays, yesterday thought up a clever way of reviving memories for their patrons. They took over the London Planetarium and filled the domed sky with the stars that the villa folk would have seen over Greece during their holidays. There was, of course, lots of retinas, taramasalata and olives too. And just to remind the guests—250 of them—what had probably escaped their attention while they were sunning themselves on the beaches, John Ebdon, director of the Planetarium, gave them a chat about the connexion between Greek mythology and poetry. Need I tell you that the accent was on romantic verse.

WINES & SPIRITS

a Special Report

High streets ahead on choice and quality

by Pamela Vandyke Price

If you have not already ordered your wines for Christmas, it would be prudent to go and get them. Three weeks is a reasonable time to allow for a delivery by carriers—and this is their extra busy season. Fortunately, Britons have not only a wider selection from the wine of the world, they probably get more in terms of quality from the High Street than anyone else.

For the past three or four years Britons have been drinking about nine bottles of wine annually. As the duty on table wine has gone up 333 per cent since 1974, this shows a bulging demand. Indeed, more adults are drinking wine and as today it is the middle income group who account for 50 per cent of wine bought, it can no longer be considered a luxury for privileged persons.

It looks as if the nine bottles figure may be exceeded, once the total for the last quarter of the year is available—the time when most wine is bought. But there are interesting alterations in the wines that people buy. True, the British do cling to known names. Even without any idea of the difference that can be made by the name of a grower, shipper or merchant, people still say "I like Nuits St Georges", "Liebfraumilch", "Beaujolais", "Chianti", "Châteaufort-Pape"—a statement about as uninformative and meaningless as "I like everyone who has blue eyes".

There are, however, indications that people rely on sources of supply that they trust and recommendations from individuals who have proved their competence. When, after 1973, the EEC labelling regulations had to apply in Britain, customers of reputable firms were willing to follow suggestions for names previously unknown—wines bought in excess of the permitted yield of a declared region or those excluded by some technicality from bearing the label under which they had previously been sold.

The British public is not always easily fooled: those who buy wine from several good sources are able to understand that it is possible to sell a wine that is impeccably what its label says—and find it dull, even if not downright poor in quality. For quality can be the responsibility only of those who make, buy, ship and handle the wine—it cannot depend on paper qualifications.

Those trained in wine and Spirit Education Trust continue their courses for the

trade and members of the International Wine and Food Society can still attend study sessions.

But so can those who buy from progressively minded independent firms, whether they work from home, selling wines from a short list of personal buys that they believe in wholeheartedly and with which they can offer personal and attentive service.

They have fun selling wine and luckily their customers increase, with their own growing appreciation of specialised wines, such as those of Spain or Italy, or certain regions of France. From the supermarket as well as the wine club, tour and the public who write to any established wine correspondent, there is general good news.

Alas that the impeccable Mues & Spence wines are so good, should have felt that their public could not quite appreciate some of the best designs for bottle labels and have modified these into something indistinguishably pretty. But they, and all those who tell wine in the High Street, can still cater for you at Christmas—if you shop without delay.

There are inexpensive medium and slightly more costly bottles to provide for a Christmas meal based on poultry, also the Boxing Day buffet or cold cuts. All will be found easily, unless you are living in a lighthouse. Modest Christmas cheer—remember, company tends to be very mixed and assorted—might start with an aperitif of chilled white vermouth with a slice of lemon—make it longer with soda if you are asking out the bottle.

With meals, have red and white. I would always opt for red with a roast, but some people prefer white and you may have some kind of fishy first course. So, have red and white of a good firm (decant the red, it will taste better), or Sicilian white and red. For Boxing Day, Hungarian Riesling (crisp, of Balkan whites), or Yugoslavians, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

For all occasions, allow half to a bottle a head—generously for, in a moral sense, the wine.

The author is Wine Correspondent, The Times.



Trevor Sutton

way, people will drink less of portions served in big glasses. If you do not use all the wine, cork it up and keep it cool for the next day—anything rather than run out or become the host who, with increasing reluctance, opens just one more ill-chosen half-bottle.

For a medium-priced Christmas, use one of the sparkling French wines, Germany, Spain or Italy as aperitifs—they need not cost more than £2 a bottle and are sustaining for the rolling cook, peace-making for the assembled family. Alsace for the white wine, there are no bad Alsace wines in Britain and I would choose a spicy Gewürztraminer, otherwise Italian, or any Italian white that reference books and its label identify as made from the fragrant trebbiano grape.

For the red, 1976 beaujolais now—or, if people want something fuller, a barolo or red rioja. After the meal, a glass of fine old tawny port, or dessert sherry, or a bowl of malmsey Madeira.

Then, on Boxing Day, a sparkling aperitif, possibly of asti (or half and half with fresh orange juice for a real reviver), with a 1976 muscadet with the food—say as bone dry as usual because of the summer—or else any good establishment's straight sauvignon.

The red wine might be a VDFG from Languedoc, Roussillon, Coteaux d'Aix or Provence, or a firm's house burgundy or a small-scale market seems interesting again in the classified growths. Suddenly, no one can find any 75s and prices of 76s are nearly 30 per cent up on the opening prices of a few months ago.

From the consumer's point of view, the best advice in these circumstances is to look for 70s and 75s for long-term buying down and 73s and 71s for current drinking. It is also worthwhile looking for good 76s, many of which should provide delicious drinking in about four to five years' time, much sooner than the 75s. But it must be emphasized that the 76s require much more careful selection than the 75s so you will need the services of a wine merchant who knows what he is about.

As a footnote to Bordeaux, lovers of its great sweet white wines should be looking out for 75s, remembering that 1976 and 1977 are not likely to produce much of interest, and before that

the latest forecast is for 1,400,000 hl of red appellation wines (the smallest harvest since 1969) and only 800,000 hl of white (the smallest since the war). With Bordeaux exports up by 40 per cent last year, this harvest, which is only about two thirds of the average of the past five years, has come at just the wrong moment for the market. Now all the danger signals for another crisis are there, although it seems hardly credible that the same mistakes of 1972-74 could be repeated again.

True, the scenario this time is slightly different and it is not Britain and America who are speculating who are pushing prices up. Instead, growers are sitting on stocks just at the time when the market seems interested again in the classified growths. Suddenly, no one can find any 75s and prices of 76s are nearly 30 per cent up on the opening prices of a few months ago.

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Champagne sales soar again

by Colin Price Beech

As the broadcaster might have said, "If champagne is not already France's best-loved ambassador, then it should be." After 1974, a year in the doldrums when world champagne consumption dropped to 105 million bottles, sales are now soaring again to the understandable delight of the men who produce, press and blend the juice of the grapes.

A recent visit to Epernay and Rheims, the two main centres of champagne production, showed that at least in early to mid-October in the departments of the Marne, God was in His heaven and all was right with the world.

A cold spring followed by a sadly indifferent summer and a delayed vintage had made even the Champenois pessimistic as to the real chances of their harvest being good. But then a warm autumn and a high-pressure area that remained almost stationary over most of Western Europe for almost three weeks gave the vignerons just the right conditions that they needed to make a wine that possessed enough acidity to keep, blended with the rich and rather over-sugared champagne of the previous year. The EEC winemaking authorities in Brussels had earlier said that the grapes

of the 1977 vintage throughout Europe should possess at least 7.5° natural sugar if they were to be acceptable for wine. This year the Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes that are so carefully cultivated on the chalk hills of Champagne were coming in with 8.5° to 9.3° of natural sugar, an ideal blending wine.

Winemaking anywhere to the north-east of Paris can be a difficult hazardous business and the costs that go into even a single bottle of champagne are interesting enough to relate in some detail. Apart from the massive investment that is locked into the land on which the champagne grapes are grown—one hectare, approximately 2.5 acres, of a vineyard in the Marne Valley will cost a minimum of 600,000 francs to 800,000 francs, even if it could be obtained—there is also the cost of financing the aging of the wine in bottle for at least a year before it can be disgorged. And never mind the cost of the raw materials that go into this inimitable wine.

Champagne, like all real wines, can be made only from the fermented juice of the grape. But did you know that every bottle of champagne requires no less than 1.5 kilos of grapes that this year are costing the wine-makers a fixed price of 7.97 francs a kilo?

So even without allowing for such essential items as cork, capsules, labels and bottles at anything between 25 centimes and 60 centimes, depending on the quality, the silver or gold foil, wire and a label at two francs, the champagne makers are spending at least £1.40p for the contents of the bottle alone.

The sediment is drawn out of the wine and it is then put back into store in the deep chalk cellars for a further period of aging before being wrapped up and packaged. There is a basic product cost of £1.80p for each bottle without allowing for time, labour, distribution, gross profit margins and the inevitable importation or selling tax (now payable in Britain at a rate of £7.93p the dozen as well as a minimum 8 per cent VAT added to the final selling price). Consider these figures for a moment and then you will begin to understand why champagne is, and always has been, a fairly expensive drink.

But is it really worth it? The answer must be in the affirmative for there are today more and more people who are saying yes. World champagne sales are 12 per cent up on last year and Britain is once again the leading export market for sparkling wines with a January to August importation figure of 4,500,000 bottles.

France: buy now or regret later

by David Peppercorn

The clear message which comes out of France this Christmas is: do not put off buying till tomorrow whatever you can buy today. The official figures are not yet to hand, but it is already clear that 1977 will be an exceptionally small vintage (53 million to 55 million hectolitres against last year's 75 million) of uncertain quality. Prices have been rising in eager anticipation of this situation since the spring.

Bordeaux was especially hard hit by the frosts which came at the end of March. Results are likely to be very mixed, with many of the best Medoc growers producing reasonable yields, but parts of St Emilion and most of Pomerol being very badly hit indeed. At Pomerol, I am told, they did not even bother to pick what grapes there were; there would not have been enough to have made a 77 vintage of Pomerol even supposing the quality had been good enough. The unfortunate producers of sweet white wines were again unlucky; after a disaster in 1976 most of Barsac was destroyed by the great frosts.

The latest forecast is for 1,400,000 hl of red appellation wines (the smallest harvest since 1969) and only 800,000 hl of white (the smallest since the war). With Bordeaux exports up by 40 per cent last year, this harvest, which is only about two thirds of the average of the past five years, has come at just the wrong moment for the market. Now all the danger signals for another crisis are there, although it seems hardly credible that the same mistakes of 1972-74 could be repeated again.

True, the scenario this time is slightly different and it is not Britain and America who are speculating who are pushing prices up. Instead, growers are sitting on stocks just at the time when the market seems interested again in the classified growths. Suddenly, no one can find any 75s and prices of 76s are nearly 30 per cent up on the opening prices of a few months ago.

From the consumer's point of view, the best advice in these circumstances is to look for 70s and 75s for long-term buying down and 73s and 71s for current drinking. It is also worthwhile looking for good 76s, many of which should provide delicious drinking in about four to five years' time, much sooner than the 75s. But it must be emphasized that the 76s require much more careful selection than the 75s so you will need the services of a wine merchant who knows what he is about.

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one must go back to the elegant 71s.

The burgundy story is a little different. After the high quality but small 76 vintage, 1977 has produced a lot of wine, the largest harvest since 1973 by the look of it. This applies both to Beaujolais and the Côte d'Or. Only in Chablis is the vintage rather small.

Everyone seems agreed that the whites from Chablis down to the Maconnais should be good but the picture for the reds is less clear. There was a lot of early publicity on the beaujolais nouveau when Joseph Drouhin announced they would not be shipping a nouveau. But since then almost everyone else has been claiming that the wines will be respectable and that they will be offering the nouveau.

The release date has been put back 10 days from the usual November 15 to November 25 to allow more time to prepare the wines since the vintage was later than usual. But with the wines high in malic acid it was not easy to have good wines by November 25, and the high acidity was likely to be rather noticeable. In the Côte d'Or they are being very reserved about the quality of their reds. The harvest was even later than in Bordeaux, but there are hopes that once the malic acid fermentations are finished the wines could turn out to be a pleasant surprise. Let us hope so, because with a rise in prices at the property of about a third since the beginning of the year, the market certainly needs it.

My buying advice here is: buy whatever 1976 chablis you can afford quickly while stocks last; they may seem expensive but it is an exceptional year and the good 77s are likely to fetch similar prices. The same goes for 76 beaujolais, especially whites like Fleurie, Juliénas, Brouilly, St Amour and Moulin à Vent. They are the best wines seen in Beaujolais for years and are still improving with every month that passes.

For those who are rightly horrified at the price of poultry fuisse, try St Veran, a new appellation adjoining Pouilly Fuisse and producing some excellent wines. But Macon Villages, especially the single village ones such as Prisse, Vire and Lugny, remain the best buys for white burgundy lovers. If anyone can still afford Côte d'Or wines, the last measure of undoubted quality to look for is 72, but they are getting scarce. Look out for offers of the splendid 76s being made by some enterprising wine merchants.

In the Rhone, firm reports indicate a satisfactory vintage, but rather lower degrees than usual, which is important since there is no capitalisation (addition of sugar to the must before fermentation) in the Rhone. This will mean plenty of attractive light fruit wines for early drinking, a style

much sought after in France, but a shortage of the strapping 13° wines which many British buyers still look for. There has been a marked rise in prices in this region in the past two years and prices at the property for Côte du Rhone have risen by over 20 per cent in the past six months alone—so Rhone wines are no longer cheap.

The charming wines of the Loire have gained greatly in popularity in Britain in the past few years and have been especially notable for their stable prices. It is especially sad therefore to record that of all the main wine districts they have been the hardest hit this year. Everything seems to have happened, from frost to exceptional severity (temperatures down to -8° to -10°C) at the end of March, followed by hail (especially in Touraine) and attacks of mildew during the summer. The vintage has made more than half a normal crop, some as little as 20 per cent. In Muscadet the situation is rather special, since usually little more than half the crop is allowed to be sold as muscadet. But the 76 crop was both plentiful and of exceptional quality so the authorities have now given permission for nearly all the wines remaining in growers' cellars to receive the appellation, and this together with what has been made in 1977 will provide a normal quantity of wine to commercialise as muscadet. Unfortunately the growers have seen fit to double their prices, a short-sighted measure they may soon regret.

Elsewhere in the Loire these sort of stocks simply do not exist and growers and negociants face a serious problem trying to satisfy the markets which have been created for their wines. It is the most serious shortage known there since 1957.

Most Loire wines are of the sort that are drunk on a year-to-year basis, so the question of buying ahead hardly arises. However, the muscadet increases are only just filtering through to the consumer and the worst is certainly yet to come. Even a standby like anjou rose will be affected.

For the finer wines, where vintages do have a meaning, those who have never looked seriously at Loire reds should look out for 75s and, even more, 76s. They are deep in colour with that pronounced fruitiness for which they are famed. On the other hand, the best sweet wines from the Coteaux du Layon need several years in bottle before they show their undoubted class. The 71s are delicious now and worth looking out for.

For some inexplicable reason the wines of Alsace have never achieved the popularity in Britain that their undoubted qualities would seem to justify. Now some of the leading shippers are combining in a new effort to win more British friends.

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Good value from Germany

by Tom Olsen

In three years out of the past six, German wines have been excellent. The great years were 1971, 1975 and 1976, each with its own splendid qualities but each involving comparison with such noble predecessors as 1921, 1949, 1953, 1959 and 1964.

To my mind 1971 was particularly superb and 1975 only slightly less so. The best examples of each are still worth laying down if you can find them, for the greatest white wines will keep longer than many realize if properly bottled and cared for.

Because it was superb and rich, 1976 was graded largely as Qualitätswein mit Prädikat, the top German wine grade. It produced spädlese, auslese and beerenauslese wines from late-picked and selected grapes which turned to "noble rot" under the autumn mists, making

wine of great sweetness by its sugar content.

These are wonderful to drink on their own or with fruit, but many are too rich to accompany a meal. This essentially a taster's vintage and not a label buyer's vintage. Since 1976 was lacking in lower grades, the ordinary drinker must turn to the Qualitätswein of lesser years for these.

The 1972, although modest, often have an attractive flavour, while the 1973 have kept their freshness as they develop. The 1974s, although fruity, are often a little light and not up to the 1973 perhaps, but of average quality. Average quality by German standards is usually satisfactory, particularly if one looks for well-known shippers' names.

In Britain we are fortunate with such firms as H. Sichel, Deinhard, W. Siegel, Aug. Helmers, Loeb, and Thoman, several with related companies abroad. With prospects for 1977

unsettled by the weather and likely to produce a large quantity of Qualitätswein, the middle grade, and minor quantities of tafelwein, the lowest grade, medium-priced wines should again be available and restore the balance disturbed by the great 1976. However 1976 is not always an expensive vintage. At the German Food Centre in Knightsbridge, I enjoyed a 1976 G. Odenheimer Petersberg spädlese (Johann Fick of Bornheim) for £2.20 and a richer, fuller 1976 Albigier Hundskopf auslese from a blend of Müller-Thurgau, Föber and Kerner grapes (Johann Fick) for £3.10. These are reasonable prices for 1976 spädleses and ausleses. Among 1975 wines the German Centre will offer a Sautheimer Heiligenhaus spädlese from Rheinhessen at a special price of £1.95 for Christmas, with case discounts.

The best wines, however, continued on next page

Acquiring a new regard for Spanish quality

by Jan Read

Spain is a country best known for sherry. Most of its exported table wine has been of the cheap variety sold in off-licences, and its sale has made Spain second supplier to Britain with France in the lead.

It is nevertheless regrettable that few of its better table wines are known or appreciated in Britain and are correspondingly hard to find, and that wine drinkers tend to think of its table wine in terms of sweet "Spanish Chablis".

With the steep price rise of French wines, the position is slowly changing. Recently a tasting of about 50 estate-bottled Riojas, all now being shipped, was recently organized by Les Amis du Vin of London and efforts are now being made to familiarize wine drinkers with the more select Spanish growers, excellent in quality and easy on the pocket.

The table wines from the Rioja, an upland region in the north, are the best known. Since the late nineteenth century they have been made by the careful methods of Bordeaux and aged for an obligatory period of two to three years in the traditional 225-litre oak casks, which gives them their characteristic vanilla-like flavour. Thanks to the usually reliable summers, vintage years are of less significance than in France; and the wine has generally been labelled according to the number of years spent in cask—though it is now common to find the year of vintage on the label.

The region is best known for its red wines, made in two styles, the lighter *cariates* and more full-bodied "burgundy type"—although it is a pity to compare such individual wines with others from abroad. It also produces roses and some clean, dry whites, best drunk young.

The large Bodegas de Exportación in the Rioja region include such names as Bodegas Bilbainas, Franco

Españolas, Berberana, López de Heredia, Viña Tondonia, CUNE, Paterina, Riojanas, La Rioja Alta, and Santiago.

Most produce wine in a variety of styles: red, white, and rose; and the old red reserves can be very fine. Money is now being invested in building new bodegas by the Spanish banks and sherry firms, and Pedro Domecq will ship a red Rioja in large quantity.

Of the two bodegas often regarded as the aristocrats, the Marqués de Riscal produces the lighter wine; but perhaps the most remarkable growth from the whole region is the Marqués de Murrieta's Castillo Ygay, gloriously fruity and deep in taste and bouquet, made only in the best years. Riscal is obtainable in London.

Traditional French methods are followed

Fine wines which are rapidly making their mark on the English market are those from the family firm of Torres in the Penedès area of Catalonia, also made by traditional French methods. Their Sangre de Toro (Bull's blood) is an inexpensive red; the *Vino Sol* (Wine of the Sun) is now one of the best and cleanest dry white wines from Spain; while the Gran Coronas (Great crown reserves) are exceptional reds. The bodega also makes a single grape wine, the light, dry Santa Digna, from the pinot noir grape, recently introduced to Penedès.

There are many other wines of character from Spain. The Basque province of Navarra makes good reds, rather similar in style to Rioja; the best are those from the Señorio de Sarria and the *Vinícola Navarra*. The soft red and white wines from Añella, north of Barcelona, have been known from Roman times; and Valdepeñas, in the Don Quixote country, produces

sturdy red wines, the staple of Heredia, Viña Tondonia, CUNE, Paterina, Riojanas, La Rioja Alta, and Santiago.

Then there is the superb red Vega Sicilia from Valladolid, made from French grapes introduced after the phylloxera epidemic of the late nineteenth century, and so sought after that the bodega supplies to the most exclusive restaurants in Spain and sends only a little for export.

Galicia, in the rainy north-west, makes *petillant* "green wines" of which the best is the delicate *feijaneira* Palaco, made from the albarino grape. You are unlikely to find this in England, but the pazo from the large cooperative at Ribadavia is sometimes available in Soho. San Sadurn de Noya in Catalonia has for years made good white sparkling wines by the champagne method. Although they may not be sold as "Spanish Champagne", the best of them—such as Cordón, Freixener and the Conde de Caralt—are very good, clean and dry, but softer than champagne.

Mention must be made of the bitter-sweet malaga, a dessert wine slightly in eclipse since its Victorian heyday, of which Harry Yoxall wrote that "There are interesting, almost surprising undertones beneath its outwards richness. Like such dark fires in the heart of a jewel". Try the beautiful Scholz Solera 1885, now again available in Britain.

This year's vintage in the Rioja has been seriously below average in volume and quality, and, bearing in mind the rate of inflation in Spain, it is unlikely that the present very advantageous prices for Rioja or the other wines can be held beyond the end of this year. However, in view of their quality, they should remain a good buy.

Jan Read is author of *The Wines of Spain and Portugal* (Faber) and *Guide to the Wines of Spain and Portugal* (Fitzman).

by Joyce Rackham

Dining at one of Florence's traditional restaurants, we were greatly diverted by the antics of the wine waiter, who handled the venerable *riserva chianti* our host had ordered with awesome reverence. It was when he produced a thermometer to take the temperature of the wine that we had to stifle our laughter.

The effect of this, however, on Americans dining at the next table, was totally different. Far from being amused, they demanded loudly why they had not given their wine the same attention.

This anecdote has a happy ending, for both wine and food were superb, but it does show that a small cross-section of the Italian gastronomic world takes wine seriously to the point of pomposity. I find a thermometer dipped into a glass of wine as incongruous as when used by German tourists to check the temperature of the Mediterranean while swimming.

In Italy, generally, visiting wine-lovers are impressed by

a much more widespread seriousness about the quality of the wine produced in all regions and a greater determination to follow the stricter wine laws which now govern viticulture. This has been of great benefit to producers and consumers alike.

More than 28 million litres of Italian wine were imported into the United Kingdom last year, an increase of more than four million litres over 1975. This compares with the figure of 2,800,000 litres shipped to Britain in 1970—a most enviable rate of growth, and particularly remarkable considering our economic crises and a series of punitive duty increases on even the humblest plonk.

Last year Italy had a share of more than 15 per cent of Britain's table wine market, and it now tussles with Spain for the rank of second largest supplier (with France in top place).

Dr Cesare Gentile, director of the Italian Trade Institute in London, commented: "We are particularly pleased with the growth in sales of our better quality DOC (Denominazione d'Origine Controllata) wines." Italy

Italy's strict law of viticulture confers benefits

now supplies half the total of all sparkling wines imported into Britain, with the naturally sweet, grapy as being the most popular. Increasingly successful is lambrusco, a frothy crimson wine from Emilia Romagna, with the sweetness indicated by the charming Italian term *amabile*.

Among its tastings this year, the institute held one of wines from Treviso and Venezia, from vineyards of Arcadian beauty to the north of Venice. The producers were able to conclude satisfactory sales to a number of British shippers, and an increasing number of their excellent and distinctive whites, as well as some unusual red wines, are now available. The golden, honey-scented *prosecco di Conegliano*, both still and sparkling, is notable. Lega of Regent Street now lists the delicious *brutissimo* *prosecco*, (from about £1.70 a bottle).

A label on another *prosecco* reads "Metodo Champenois—vino spumantizzato" ("champagne method—new of the spumantizzato art"). It sounds irresistible. Another white wine of considerable personality

from the Treviso region is the dry golden verduzzo, now shipped from the renowned Bianchi-Kunkler vineyards by Cini Brothers, which also has a delicious cabernet and local del piave. They cost about £2.65 for a 1.5-litre magnum.

In supermarket like Safeway and Sainsbury, it is an agreeable surprise to find such a sprightly newcomer as the medium-dry riesling del colle from the Veneto, imported by Itabini and priced well below £1.50. The same shipper has a bright, dry crimson fruitier merlot del piave at the same price.

From Udine, shipped by Enoria, comes the *Isola Augusta* collection, extending from the stringently dry pinot bianco, with lots of bite and flavour, to a nice dry red, "plummy" merlot.

Tuscany is now sending us a bewildering choice of *chianti*, both classico and otherwise, from estates which hitherto have exported little or nothing to Britain, as well as some old favourites. Some of the newer wines come from youthful vineyards, and it will take several years before they can be fairly

assessed at comparative tastings. Among the enduring names of the region, wine like *brolio riserva classico* 1973, with its great subtlety and lovely bouquet, is an excellent example against which to taste a selection of the others.

In jubilee week in London a special tasting was held of wines from another great Tuscan estate, that of Marchese Antinori, when he introduced a new red wine, Tignanello 1971—dry and subtle as a good claret yet retaining its special regional style. "We decided to make this after years of experiment, using a different blend of grapes, and maturing the wine in the much smaller bordeaux casks," he told me.

In contrast are the wines from the harsh, subarctic soil of Sardinia, which are beginning to appear on many lists in smart Italian restaurants as well as modest wine bars. Their shippers, seeking out the fruit red and rose of Riva del Gottardo, shipped by Cibo, and the smooth and flavourful dry red, Gloria del Salento, from immaculately-tended vineyards near the baroque town of Lecce, shipped into Britain by Lorne House Vintners.

does not taste at all like sherry.

This year Padana introduced a new Sardinian table wine, the delicately perfumed, platinum blonde *dry vermentino*, a mellifluous name for a most intriguing drink.

Greco di Tufo, made by Michele Mastrobortone, sounds more like an old master than a fairly youthful wine. In fact it is full-bodied, golden, with an agreeably leafy bouquet, and comes from the southern region of Campania, from the province of Avellino, much esteemed by Italian oenophiles. It is imported by Belloni, is dry enough to serve with oysters, and makes a good aperitif.

From Puglia, the heart of Italy's "wine lake", a group of producers sent over a host of attractive wines for a London tasting this year. This unjustly neglected southern province merits more attention by wine-lovers. Worth seeking out are the fruit red and rose of Riva del Gottardo, shipped by Cibo, and the smooth and flavourful dry red, Gloria del Salento, from immaculately-tended vineyards near the baroque town of Lecce, shipped into Britain by Lorne House Vintners.

Green in years but not in character

Portugal has been shipping wine to England since the twelfth century, and the mysterious *Charneco* wine was mentioned later by Shakespeare. During the seventeenth century strenuous efforts were made to popularize Douro wines to compete with claret; and the stimulus of the Methuen Treaty of 1703 finally led to the evolution of port, which, with Madeira, has subsequently accounted for the great bulk of exports to Britain.

In recent times, the first table wine to be shipped in sizable quantities was Mateus Rosé, whose success dates from 1951, when Sacherer-Stiwell wrote in *The Sunday Times* that it was "the most delicious vin rosé that I ever tasted". It has since become one of the best-selling wines in the world and dominates British imports of Portuguese table wine. Another big seller is the red *Justina*, marketed by International Distillers and Vintners, and one of the pleasantest in its price bracket.

Portugal has, however, a great deal more to offer, in the shape of good red and white table wines hardly known in Britain; and a recent campaign to publicize them centres on the *vinhos verdes* and *Dão*.

The "green wines" from the north are among the country's most individual. The adjective refers not to their colour but to their youth; and, in fact, they are

produced in the proportion of 70 per cent of red to 30 per cent of the white, better known abroad.

As Raymond Postgate once remarked, the red wine "is unrelentingly hard, and the first mouthful is a shock". The whites, actually paler in colour, are low in alcohol—a fact of some interest to motorists—dry and somewhat astringent, and possess a flowery bouquet and delicate taste of their special malolactic fermentation leaves them ready for drinking in the early summer after the harvest and with a slight impermanent sparkle. Served cold, they are delicious for summer drinking and may accompany fish or light food the year round. Again, they make a pleasant long aperitif.

Among the best of the *vinhos verdes* are the *Alvarinhos* from Monção, just over the border from Galicia, notably the *Cepa Velha* from Vinhos de Monção. That most readily obtainable in Britain is *Aveleda*, shipped by Bass Charrington, bottled in green hock-type bottles and slightly sweeter than the wines drunk in Portugal itself. Other brands obtainable here are *Lagosa* from the *Rio de Lagosa*, *Vinho do Norte* de Portugal: *Gambra* and *Gatão* from Borges & Irmão; *Ribeiro* from Ribeiro & Irmão; and *Casaleiro* from Caves Dom Teodósio.

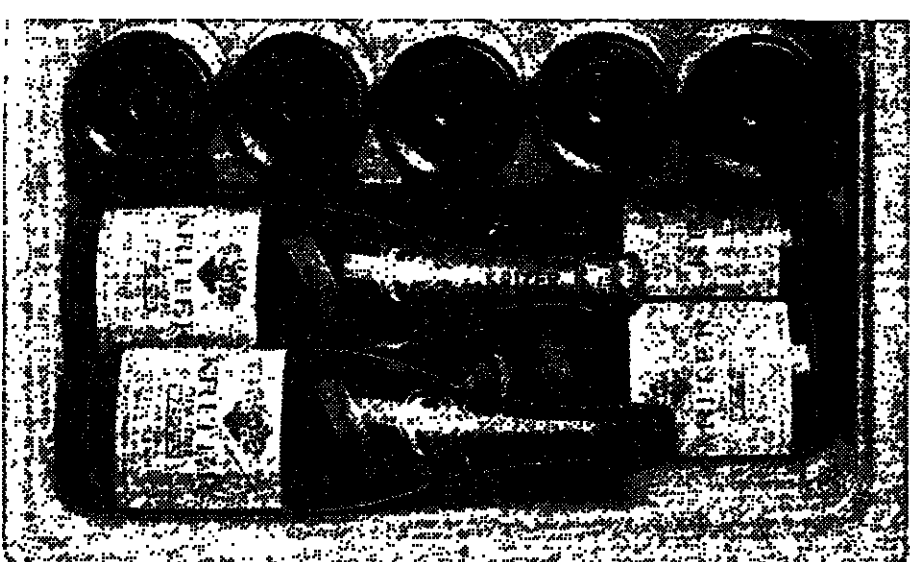
Portuguese wine lists always distinguish between *vinhos verdes* and *vinhos*

maderos or mature wines, of which those in largest supply are from the *Dão*, a high plateau to the south of the Douro. The reds are dry, deep in colour and are often described as "velvety" (because of their high glycerol content); and, at their best, the whites are dry, clean and flinty, and should be drunk young.

Perhaps the best known of the wines obtainable in Britain are those from the *Rio de Lagosa*, *Vinho do Norte* de Portugal: *Gambra* and *Gatão* from Borges & Irmão; *Ribeiro* from Ribeiro & Irmão; and *Casaleiro* from Caves Dom Teodósio.

There are other areas in Portugal, not as yet officially demarcated, which are beginning to produce very drinkable table wines. The problem in the Upper Douro has always been to avoid fast and furious fermentation of the must and a consequent loss of delicacy and bouquet. This was solved in the case of port by branding the wine and so arresting fermentation at an early stage. It is now being tackled along different lines by the use of closed vats; and the results are excellent.

Jan Read



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Good value from Germany

continued from previous page

come from the riesling grape and among these I have enjoyed the 1974 Bernkasteler Badstube riesling (Lauterburg) from the Mosel at £2.90, a good balance of acidity and sweetness, the 1975 Dürckheimer Spätlese riesling (Kabinett) from the Pfalz at £2.15, so lush and elegant, and an apple-sweet 1975 Ockfener Bockstein spätlese riesling (Kabinett) from the Saar at £4.50.

There are many cheaper examples of riesling at about £2 or less, such as the attractive *Bereich Bernkastel* riesling, a *Qualitätswein*, and *Bereich Johannisberg* riesling.

In the Rheingau 79 per cent of the vines are riesling and in Mosel-Saar-Ruwer they are 69 per cent, but the Rheingau wines are fruitier, full and round while those of Mosel-Saar-Ruwer, particularly the tributaries, are elegantly austere with fine

fruit acidity. Müller-Thurgau, a cross between riesling and sylvaner, is the main grape in Rheinhessen, Rheinpfalz and Baden, with sylvaner a close competitor in the first two.

These ripen earlier than riesling and produce considerably greater quantities, so they are chosen for the simpler varieties and make clean, refreshing wines of some character. One finds them in Niersteimer Cutes Domtal and Oppenheimer Krutenbrunnen, both wines from Rheinhessen, the area south of the Rhine, and as popular in Germany as in Britain.

The Rheinpfalz uses the same two grapes as well as 14 per cent riesling and a good example is the 1976 Wachenheimer Dornbusch riesling kabinett, but this area has skillful producers like Dr Besserman-Jordan and Dr Bürklin-Wolf, with great wines from Wachenheim, Deidesheim and Forst at higher prices.

Baden has been slow to make its impact on Britain but has individual, full-bodied white wines from grapes like riesling and gutedel, a lot of Müller Thurgau and 20 per cent spätburgunder, a lesser pinot noir that makes the amusing red Affenthaler wine which has a monkey embossed on the bottle.

The 1975 Niederhimminger Anilafelsen is a good example of Baden Müller-Thurgau, semi-dry, at £2.45, while the 1975 Leseheimer Vulkanfelsen Rülander (pinot gris in France) has a rich, flavour turning dry in a full, lingering after-taste at £2.45. These are *zentralellere* wines but the German Food Centre will shortly have the wines of the Friedrich Keller, Kaiserstuhl kelleret, a privately-owned cellar with high reputation for Baden wines. They will include examples of Weissburgunder (pinot blanc) of special quality. Having visited Breisch and the Kaiserstuhl at harvest times I know the

care that goes into the making of these fine wines which deserve to be as well known here as in Germany.

Although I like to see a wine of origin on labels, Germany produces good value lesser wines. *Burgersmeister*, Mosel (Sichel) is one, and Golden Oktober (Grants of St James) another, both soundly made. *Liebfraumich* must now be of *Qualitätswein* standard and Blue Nun, Hams Christol, Black Tower and Crown of Crowns are well known. Ranges of German wines, usually under £2, include Georghof, Franz Reh, Seidenhaus, Valckenberg and Julius Kayser, all of which I have found pleasant.

As with other wines, a reliable merchant is the best guide and it is particularly important with German wines to make sure you get dry or sweet according to your taste, since it is not always easy to tell from the label unless you are knowledgeable.



The reason why so many recognised wine experts speak so highly about the quality of Cyprus sherry and wine is that they have tried it. Have you? There are many different brands available—all with their own styles. You too will be in for a very pleasant surprise.

Beer drinkers who have a way with the grape

by Colin Price Beech

Beer or wine? How does an apparent preference help us to understand a culture? Austria is a country twice the size of Switzerland and has seven million or so inhabitants drink roughly four times as much beer as they do wine and yet Austria has essentially a wine culture.

In and around the capital, Vienna, most probably the light and wonderfully frothy *heuriger*, a real laughter maker, is as heady and ex-

citing as the essence of the country itself.

To be more prosaic, 86 per cent of Austria's wine is white and comes from vineyards that are probably older in origin than Vienna. For the vineyards that line the banks of the Danube are among the oldest in Europe and, certainly date back to the country's pre-Roman past. Doubtless the legions who struggled across the Brenner so many centuries ago were surprised to encounter vineyards and a

locally produced product that enabled them to take time off for refreshment in the Vienna Woods near by. Those early vineyards in the Wachau district still play an important role in the production of Austrian quality wine today. The two great Wachau wine towns, Krems, home of Austria's most important wine fair, and Durnstein, face south across the Danube looking out as if to Italy from whence those long-dead legionnaires once marched.

But today it is to France, not Italy, that we must look if we are to find a significant similarity in the nature and style of the wine. Austrian wines, particularly the Rieslings, are more suggestive of Alsace than of the southern slopes of the Dolomites or the Moselle or Rheinhessen. A red St Laurent from the ancient and monastic vineyards of Kloster Neuberg can instantly invoke a recollection of the gamy of the Beaujolais, but these are all digressions. What we need, especially during the winter of an afternoon spent in the sun drinking Austrian wine.

However, Austria's main grape is the Gruner Veltliner, a growth indigenous to Austria itself which produces an attractive medium dry white wine that often has a slight prickly or springy as it leaves the palate for the descent down the throat. Mueller-Thurgau is the hybrid that most English wine-growers choose to use, but in Austria's softer, kinder setting the Gruner Veltliner provides more body and more of the childlike and this beneficial climate tends to render individual

vintages of secondary importance. No account of Austrian wine would be complete without a mention of that country's most controversial wine producer. Lenz Moser is known throughout the world of viticulture as the pioneer, or some might say inventor, of the High Culture system of grape cultivation in which mixed varieties of vines can be planted three yards apart and encouraged to grow by means of natural or "green" manuring.

These vines grow up and out on trellis wires that are supported by iron poles spaced out in such a way that tractors and agricultural machinery can pass between them. This enables one man to work 10 acres where before it might well have been required many times that number. Moreover, fewer vines are needed per acre since yields are increased through improved fertility and greater resistance to bad weather conditions.

Lenz Moser wines are obtainable in Britain as the wines of Alois Morandell, who enjoys a sound reputation for the production and export of such high quality estates bottled growths as Kemser Sandgrube, Mueller-Thurgau, Ruster Gierberg, rockenbeerenauiese from the consistently superb cellar of G. Feiler at Rust in Burgenland and their own Steiner Hund Rheinriesling from Krems.

Other Austrian wines now attracting attention in Britain include those of Kloster Neuberg and the modestly priced Gumpoldskirchner Neuberger from Augustus Barnett.

Britain keeps liking for sherry and port

by Edward Hale

During 1976 just under 6,500,000 cases of Spanish sherry were sold in the United Kingdom. These were complemented by 2,500,000 cases of Cyprus sherry with South African sherry adding more than 500,000 cases.

The sherry figure does not include re-exports, about a million cases, but keeps Britain in the lead as Spain's best customer. Hard on its heels comes Holland, buying about five million cases mainly of more ordinary quality with price the important factor, with the United States in third place.

A market showing impressive growth, but starting from a small base, is that of West Germany. The total United Kingdom sales levelled off in 1976 and growth in the present year is confined to certain brands, with Harveys of Bristol now claiming 30 per cent with their sherries, expecting this to rise to more than 40 per cent this autumn, and Gonzalez-Bryass replacing Doménech in second place. Some momentum may have been gained since the boom years of the early 1970s but Jerez de la Frontera still wears an air of prosperity, even if some of the latest new buildings, constructed in those heady days, have rather more wine in their cathedral

like stiles than the owners may have expected.

Discernible trends in sherry-drinking habits include a large increase in the popularity of the light fino, which until recently held only a small but faithful following. When sales were low, the fino tended to spend too long in bottle and lost their essential freshness, but as their popularity has increased so the wine has moved faster through the system and nowadays in Britain these sherries can be enjoyed almost as freshly bottled as in their Andalusian homeland.

Although there is still time to go before Spain joins the European Economic Community, the adjustment of internal duties in Britain resulting from membership has helped these lighter sherries by encouraging a lowering of their strength and, in turn, the duty paid on them.

Most finos sold here are about 17.5 per cent (Gay Luscious). This strength is only a few degrees above that of many table wines and, being little, if any, more expensive, allows a bottle opened as an aperitif to be taken to the table and drunk with the meal.

This is not as revolutionary as it sounds, as in the bodegas, constructed in those heady days, have rather more wine in their cathedral

quirir, it would be heretical to wash down the wonderful seafood with anything other than Manzanilla fino, and Professor George Saintsbury, in his *Notes on a Cellarbook*, recalls a dinner at which he served only sherry. A full-bodied dry sherry, an amontillado or a paleo cortado, is one of the accepted accompaniments for soup, but the lighter finos may, outside the professor's experimentation, have been missed.

Sherry is a very curious wine. Oxidation, the bane of winemakers everywhere, becomes an ally to the creator of a Jerez bodega, giving to the wine in the lightly bunged butts that special nuttiness of olorosos and amontillados. Before they were amontillados the wines were protected by a film of yeast, the *flor* which kept the younger wine from the air and preserved in it a freshness and crispness normally missing from white wine grown so far south and which otherwise soon become flat and flabby.

A few years ago, fortification of wines exported to Britain may have been overgenerous but the influence of duty changes has given us finos of the strength previously exclusive to Spain itself. Professor Saintsbury would have been pleased, but if we are misinformed to make a meal to go with them, we should not forget the *tapas*, nibbles of infantile variety, which the Andalusians regard as part and parcel to the true enjoyment of sherry.

Olives and almonds, prawns and pieces of raw fish, small sausages, all

great fun to contrive and

designed to raise the spirits above the plate and drink and in despair to offer a lukewarm welcome to the unexpected guest. Remember, too, that all sherry is a white wine and should be served chilled.

Despite coming from vineyards only about 100 miles away, montilla, one of the wines served at Saintsbury's dinner, has, ironically, become an outlaw, a sort of *blanc-neige* to the shippers of Jerez, despite having given the Jerezans the origin of the name of their amontillados.

The dust has now settled from the various high court battles, to protect the name of sherry and, though it is interesting to speculate on changes which may come if and when Spain becomes a member of the EEC, Cyprus sherry continues to hold a place on the shelves of British winecellars.

Although Cyprus can claim to be one of the oldest wine-growing areas in the world, and a king of Cyprus feasted in the royal company of a further wine for centuries, it is the *vinos* Company in their London Hall in 1963, their sherry style of wine is something of a newcomer to these shores, a product of a revival in Cyprus wine fortunes.

It is a pity that the remarkable Fred Rossi, a member of the London wine trade, who advised the newly independent government on viticultural matters and the island's wine industry, is no longer with us. In the past few years, however, Spanish sherry has more than held its own and the wines from the island of Apuródice,

although attractively priced, have declined in popularity.

Political trouble obviously played its part and, with the collapse of the regime, the wine might have been expected in Portugal. In spite of the good Scottish names in a roll-call of shipwrecks, port is an Englishman's wine and has survived greater upheavals in the past.

There is a firm admonishment that the first duty of port is to be red and, although an interesting way of teasing wine-conscious friends, white port has made little impact in Britain where duty levels are the same as sherry. Vintage port has a special place in our wine lists and the shippers have declared 1975 a vintage year in the British jubilee year of 1977.

The previous vintage to be declared was 1970 and inevitably opening prices have increased alarmingly since then but even at well over £40 a case the wine is still a good value. It is nice to think of benevolent godparents laying down the new port for their godsons and, perhaps, in this enlightened age, there may be a god-daughter or two being christened in the world with a pipe of port in her dowry.

A Portuguese government decree has made bottling in Oporto compulsory for this and future vintages: a sad departure from the tradition of the *vinos* Company, who, as a merchant, had his own way of handling and bottling the wine and the bottler's name was considered almost as important as that of the shipper himself.

Mixing for years but still unshaken

by John Groser

Nanny was wrong. How often I heard her tell Cook, in a tone of severest reprimand, that gin was mother's ruin. It was nothing of the sort, though it was nearly the death of poor Master John.

When I was about five we lived next door to a family with one very precocious daughter. Portland was eight

and allowed to smoke, drink and swear and paint her nails. That leap year she proposed marriage to me (twice) and made me sick by forcing me to "puff" (as the port is) at one of her parties.

After lunch on Christmas Day, Portland appeared with a bottle of Booth's gin (full) and she and I hid under the dining table and swigged from the bottle. Hidden from adult view by a fine damask cloth that touched the carpet, I became intoxicated (not I hasten to add, with Portland) and was taken to hospital for almost a month.

This stressful experience meant that I never touched gin until two decades later when my journalistic duties took me to America and I fell in love with martinis. Being a one girl (at a time) person and abstemious by nature, my devotion to vodka diminished as my affection for the juniper berry grew.

Indeed, during the Onion Patch Series of 1968, the yachting fraternity in Newport (Rhode Island) christened me "Juniper John". I started to use well known *nom de plume* Captain Juniper RN (ret'd). This caused jealousy in Bermuda, where in Montreal and local confusion in Havana. But that is another tale.

It was to my utter astonishment, therefore, that in Copenhagen recently I discovered that I liked Blood Brew called Over and Out (it really does). One bottle of aquavit to two of Dubonnet to three pints of water together with cloves and sugar must be heated gently and decorated with maraschino cherries. Make sure you have lots of corned beef (the only alternative being warm flat local beer—which actually is a wonderful hair

of the dog when mixed half and half with tomato juice) positively grew to like Havana Club. Not necessarily in a daiquiri, nor with Coke (Cuba cola, dummies) but in some amusing variation concocted by Maxwell in the bar of the Old Hilton.

Because of the humidity, I spent a lot of time being air conditioned and had my first Breeze from the Sheets. For this kink cocktail you need three parts white rum, three parts brandy, two of Rose's lime juice and one of Cointreau shaken with ice and served with a twist of lemon.

Which reminds me of the time Jean Harlow was invited to dine at 10 Downing Street when Asquith was Prime Minister. Miss Harlow (perhaps somewhat forwardly) started calling "Margot Asquith by her Christian name. What is more, she pronounced it "Margott".

Halfway through dinner, the Prime Minister's wife could stand it no longer and said (very audibly) to her neighbour: "Doesn't the woman know that the 't' is silent as in Harlow?"

To make a Harlow you need vodka and Cusenier Freezomint (the white variety) and when shaken you float Pernod on top. I think it is revolting, but there is no accounting for taste (or lack of it).

Those of you with a sweet tooth will want to be introduced to the Godfather. This needs one and a half ounces of scotch mixed with three ounces of a sweet liqueur of Amaretto di Saronno (that amazing Italian liqueur) over ice in an old fashioned glass.

Now that you can buy Galliano by the gallon (for this extraordinary act you would have to pay £23.30, mind you) I feel that I cannot leave mixed drinks without a mention of my old favourite, Harvey Wallbanger.

You need six ounces of fresh orange juice to one of vodka over ice in a tall glass. Stir and splash in half an ounce of Galliano and seal through the eyes of waves just like old time. You do so on the West Coast of the United States.

If it seems that I have offered for your delectation drinks that are particularly potent that is a false impression. They just happen to be mixes that I like (except for the one called Harlow) any of which will make you drunk if taken excessively. I like the odd nip, now and then, and do not agree with the Ancient Egyptians who left drink (the only alternative being warm flat local beer—which actually is a wonderful hair

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Right for the ice age

by Pamela

Vandyke Price

anised coagulate and form a type of scale. For should you be drunk without something to eat—nuts, olives, silvers of cheese, or crisps.

A bottle that should definitely be kept in the freezer, however, is schnapps—the spelling varies between the Scandinavian countries, but Aalborg Aquavit from Denmark is certainly the best known in Britain. The bottle should, ideally, be presented jacketed in ice and the spirit poured into small glasses and the contents downed at a gulp—the very word schnapps in Danish means "a snatch or gasp".

There are a number of herbs used in the different recipes for the spirit, which is made in Holland and Germany too, and the flavours therefore vary. Aalborg Aquavit is vaguely reminiscent of caraway, their Jubileum's Aquavit is flavoured with dill and herbs.

All kinds of traditions are associated with drinking schnapps, which should also always be accompanied by something to eat, preferably, say the Danes, herring. The etiquette of raising the glass, saying "skål" while looking into the eyes of whoever is being "skooled" linking arms and knocking back the schnapps in a gulp (one cannot bite the second glass in two, the third in three, the visitor is told) is complicated and varies from country to country.

The chaser is usually chilled lager, the accompaniment open sandwiches. But the cleanliness of the drink makes it acceptable even before good wines are served and it is good with mock caviar and the sort of kept in the refrigerator. This will make the oil in the

wine. Schnapps must be head—rapid, it is almost the nastiest drink that has ever come my way. Served as it should be, it is a drink that creates conviviality to such an extent that it is not surprising to learn that, in the seventeenth century, it became necessary to decree that, in Denmark, regional assemblies had to meet at 7 am because after that time, it was assumed that everyone would be amiably bemused, also that the clergy were forbidden to conduct services with glasses in their hands!

Tequila might justly be termed the schnapps of the south. It is made only in Mexico from a plant, the *agave*, that is not, as many think, a cactus. The bluish spines of its leaves are stripped from the pineapple-like heart of the mature plant, which is cooked and pressed, the juice then being fermented and eventually distilled.

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finger, suck a slice of lime or lemon and jerk the wrist so that the salt is thrown to the mouth—and then the small portion of tequila is downed. Tequila is an excellent accompaniment to highly spiced snacks and canapés.

Butch gin, known variously as "Generer", "Jenever" or—as our ancestors referred to it, "Hollands"—is certainly one of the historic European spirits. Lucas Bols made a type of it in Amsterdam as early as 1575 and the professor of medicine at Leyden in the early seventeenth century first made a distillate (in a pot still) from rye, which was then redistilled with juniper and other additives. It was the juniper—(genièvre) in French—that gave the flavour and the Dutch name. British soldiers in the Low Countries referred to it as "gin" or "Dutch courage".

But Dutch gin is intended to be drunk by itself, not as part of a mixture, and each of the distilleries, including Bols, Fockink, De Kuiper, will usually have several types in their ranges, some flavoured—such as with lemon peel—others rather heavy in style compared with the lighter gins now in vogue. It is a matter of taste whether you serve Dutch gin cool or ice cold, but it makes an excellent accompaniment to smoked fish, and is especially good with eel, as well as with raw herring.

And then there is the Royal Navy's much-loved pink gin, made with Plymouth gin, the Singapore gin sling and the dry martini, now no longer required to have capital letters since a court acknowledged its supremacy as the world's best known cocktail.

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PORT

... from Portugal to the wide world!

When drinking a glass of Port one does not necessarily have to think about the remote and mountainous Douro region in north-eastern Portugal, its romantic birthplace. However, Port owes its very existence to that unique wine area. It is made with grapes grown there and its famous name was taken from the city of Porto or Oporto, ocean gateway of the inland Douro valley, where it matures.

Grapes have been grown and wine made in the Alto Douro for thousands of years. When Caesar's soldiers marched and clattered on the paved roman roads of the area, wine was already being made and surely not so very few legionaries overcame the longing for their faraway homes with some generous cups of the remote ancestor of what is now Port. However it was in the last half of the XVII century that Port really began to be known; this is owed to British initiative and thirst and then it quickly became the Englishman's wine. However, the years passed by and as its fame progressed its markets multiplied and diversified. Nowadays Port is shipped to more than one hundred countries, covering many drinking habits, customs and religions. France, moreover, and some of the very best wines of the world is its biggest importer; she overtook Britain in 1963. Presently the ten biggest consumer countries are, in descending order, as follows: France, United Kingdom, Portugal, Belgium-Luxembourg, Holland, West Germany, Denmark, Italy, Russia, Sweden. The ten biggest Port drinkers "per capita" are as follows: Portugal, Denmark, Belgium-Luxembourg, France, Holland, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Switzerland.

Since its early days, and as the centuries passed, different fashion trends went by but Port stayed; not only because of its high intrinsic value, but also because of its easy adaption to different tastes and habits. There are various sorts and styles of Port: it may be a dessert wine, an aperitif wine or just a pick-me-up or a wine to be appreciated in a moment of leisure. Not all countries have the same drinking habits. For instance, on the turn of the century, sweet and very sweet white Port was the wine for two great countries; however, at the same time, other countries asked for deep purple Reds, Rubies, Tawnies and Vintage Port. Some nations, France for instance, mainly think of Rubies, Tawnies and Whites as aperitifs. But other Port lovers, and more and more do it, drink white dry Port as the only aperitif.

The fact is that there are many ways of drinking and many different Ports to be drunk. There are however some general rules on Port drinking; they may collide with some personal idiosyncrasy or with some special wine drinking habit. This in no way is a difficulty as a Port consumer has the sacred right to drink as he pleases and chooses. Port is born and matured to give him his pleasure; nevertheless should never forget that it also grows for a little loving respect so that it may show itself to the best advantage.

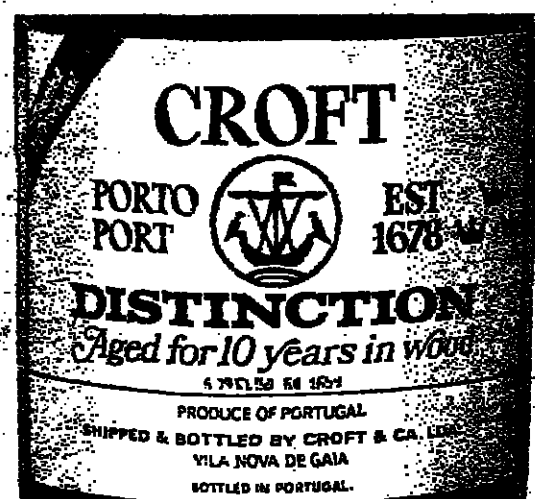
Let us now consider the various types of Port and how and when they are usually drunk. What follows is not for the learned wine lover but only for the everyday common person who likes Port but usually has an imperfect knowledge of the complex subject that Port really is.

Port can be produced from white grapes and then it will consequently be white Port. White Port can be sweet or dry and is aged in wooden casks. The trend nowadays is for the dry or extra dry ones which are extraordinary aperitifs. They do not compete or try to surpass any other aperitif wine, they are, as Port usually is, excellent and different. They can be better appreciated if served cool.

The Reds and Rubies are usually young rich Ports; they are as a rule dessert wines but can be appreciated at any time. The Tawnies, older, smoother, medium dry or sweet, can attain extraordinary quality. An old Tawny is very versatile: it is a perfect dessert wine but is also very good as an aperitif or at any time of the day or evening. Reds, Rubies and Tawnies are aged in the wood and are commonly a blend of different Ports; this is, one could say, the classical way of producing Port. Wood Ports do not usually exhibit a date on the label. Nowadays however some of these Ports can show on the label one of the following descriptions: "10 Years old", "20 Years old", "30 Years old", "more than 40 Years old"; they must be bottled in Portugal with the "Selo de garantia" (guarantee seal) issued by the "Instituto do Vinho do Porto" (Port Wine Institute) in Oporto.

Lastly we have Vintage Port or simply Vintage. This is the full bodied Port of only one very good year, bottled in between its second and third year. Always dated and of exceptional quality. One can not generalize about Vintage Port; each one is different not only as refers to the year but also to the shipper. Since 1970 it must be bottled in Portugal with the "Selo de garantia" issued by the "Instituto do Vinho do Porto" in Oporto. It is the perfect after dinner wine and, as most people know, is an expensive and difficult wine; it should be uncorked and decanted if necessary some time before serving, then drunk quickly, that is, not kept for long. However the public demand for Vintage is always growing. Some Vintage Ports are collectors items only to be found in privileged cellars or in auction rooms.

Finally, to finish this article, let us consider a question that is frequently asked by young Port lovers: should one buy Port to lay down and drink years afterwards. The answer, not so easy, is yes and no. If one thinks of Reds, Rubies, Tawnies, Whites, that is of Ports aged in wood then its no, with some few exceptions, as the Shipper usually bottles his wine when he thinks it should be drunk. But one is thinking of Vintage or Crusted Ports, then it frequently could be yes, but then you must know your wines, or better still, ask the advice of a good Port wine merchant.



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Whisky blends the best with experience

by Ian Crawford

Anyone whose experience of whisky has included a glass or two of any of the famous Highland single malts may well ask why there was ever any necessity to blend whisky at all. Malt devotees have always sworn that straight malt whisky, "chateau-bottled" as it were, from one distillery, is the finest spirit drink in the world. It is not a verdict with which I would quarrel but it is the blends which have made the name of Scotch whisky famous throughout the world and which have brought about its dominance in the international market.

The circumstances of their invention were a blend in themselves, a mixture of economics, enterprise and disaster. The disaster was European, although oddly enough the bug that caused it, *phylloxera vastatrix*, was first discovered in London. An American vine-lice, it swept through the vineyards of Europe in the 15 years after 1870, the greatest devastation the wine trade has ever suffered, until it was found that by grafting American vine roots resistant to the *phylloxera* on to European vines, the vineyards could be brought back into health and productivity.

This is where whisky came in. The *phylloxera* destroyed the vineyards of the Charente and with it the gentleman's spirit, brandy. Very little whisky had been drunk outside Scotland before 1870. In a *Rolling Commission*, Winston Churchill wrote: "My father could never have drunk whisky except when shooting on a moor or in some very dull, chilly place."

Deprived of brandy, the English gentry turned to whisky, at first Irish, then Scotch. The Highland pot-still whiskies with their rich and splendid flavours were difficult to obtain and often proved too rich for the tastes of the English market. On the other hand the grain whisky distilled in the Lowlands by the patent still method, from grains other than barley, produced a less elegant drink than palates accustomed to the finest cognacs would accept. The answer was a blend of the

two kinds of whisky, malt and grain. This mixture, in its many variations, enabled the establishment of brand names in whisky which are now famous throughout the world and ousted brandy from its premier place, which it has never regained.

William Sanderson, British wine and cordal manufacturer of Charlotte Lane, Edinburgh, has left us one of the earliest recipes for "mixture whisky": "10 gallons Glenlivet, 10 gallons Pitlochry, five gallons reduced mixed aqua, eight gallons grain, four gallons water, 1 gallon aqua shrub, eight gallons grain aqua."

The aqua referred to is not water but aqua vitae, the Latin version of *uisge beatha*, the Gaelic for "the water of life", which gives whisky its name. Just what the difference between grain and grain aqua is remains a mystery, as does the contents of aqua shrub, although presumably this is some kind of cordial mixed with whisky as a base, as shrub was an eighteenth-century name for a compounded drink made with orange or lemon juice, sugar and spirit.

Mr Sanderson's most successful mixture was to wait another occasion. So fascinated was he by the process of blending that he continued with his experience in the cordial business, he determined to make a definitive Scotch blended whisky. Using the finest malt and grain whiskies, he compounded almost 100 blends, mixing them personally in small casks or "vats". Then he called his whisky-tasting cronies together and they began earnestly and scientifically—or so the tale goes—to choose the finest blend.

The unanimous choice fell on the contents of Vat 69, which remains the Sanderson brand name to this day. Leslie Scott, Sanderson's blending director, who is responsible today for concocting Vat 69 and the de luxe whisky Antiquary, told me he hoped he was living up to the success of William Sanderson's recipe. At first, blended whisky was conditioned by the location of the blender and the number and styles of whisky easily available in the district. Today Mr Scott has at his disposal all the re-

sources of the huge DCL group and he blends his whiskies partly with computers, which work out what stocks of what whiskies, and of what age, it is necessary to lay down to meet the expected market demand in 10 to 15 years' time.

Like all blended whiskies, Vat 69 has a secret formula which gives it the taste that distinguishes it from other whiskies. The modern blend is complex; to maintain a constant quality and flavour Mr Scott's Vat 69 contains 45 different whiskies—40 malts and five grains.

The whisky is brought in from the subsidiary company, where it is stored and matured until ready for blending. The casks, of this and that style and age, are all tested on arrival before being put into individual vats in the correct quantities.

In the blending vat they are "roused" with compressed air for 24 hours to make sure the whiskies are thoroughly mixed, and at this stage water is added to reduce the whisky to its retail proof stage of 70° (or sometimes more for export). Since the Sanderson plant at South Queensferry went all to Loch Lomond water about two years ago, Mr Scott told me it has proved so pure that the previously-used demineralization plant is redundant.

At all stages through the blend, checks are made by Mr Scott and his assistants. A little whisky is taken from the cask, put in a tulip-shaped "nosing" glass and sniffed. What they are looking for is not so much a variation in the blend as for the possibility that the whisky may have spent its maturing years in a cask with a rotting stave, which would give the spirit a corked taste, like a wine with a badly fitting or rotted cork.

There are also tests made by a chemist, but his job is to analyse the whisky for strength and cloudiness; depending whether it is good or bad is strictly Mr Scott's department.

Although tasting is no longer done by sipping or rubbing whisky on your hands and sniffing the result, the remarkable stability and quality of the blends are a tribute to the combination of old skills and new applications of them which go into every bottle of whisky.

by Joyce Rackham

Unlike wine tasting, where the liquid is savoured on the palate, cognac must be tasted, evaluated and spat out at very high speed. Otherwise the fumes would soon "paralyse" the palate, and probably intoxicate the taster too.

"Now I have finished tasting for the week, I can enjoy a cigarette," said M. Maurice Filloux, who represents the sixth generation of his family to be chief taster of the 212-year-old house of Hennessy, where he is also a senior director. Lightning a Gauloise, he told me: "When I was a student, I had to give it up when I started work. Just one spoiled my palate for two days." To find such a distinguished taster taking pleasure in moderate smoking is not unusual, contrary to the legend, usually perpetuated by militant non-smokers, that such a habit injures the palate.

During the many weeks of the year when he is tasting daily, M. Filloux goes without breakfast, like a devout communicant. He simply drinks tea or coffee, finding that butter and jam with bread or a croissant leave a lingering taste and sensation on the tongue. "We need to seek out so many nuances in what we taste, not only to judge quality, but to detect and analyse defects, and be able to tell growers or distillers how to correct them."

M. Filloux's father, whose portrait hangs in his office, refused to taste if he had a

cold. His son says he "can just manage" but it is not easy. He finds antibiotics affect his tasting adversely. Elegantly dressed in a navy blazer, blue cashmere sweater and grey flannels, M. Filloux looks younger than his 51 years, and not like the layman's idea of a taster. This might be an austere white-coated figure, sniffing in antiseptic isolation in a laboratory, or maybe a robed, rubicund sort, like those monks in *New Yorker* cartoons, doing more sniffing than spitting.

Maurice Filloux works in an agreeable, traditionally furnished office overlooking the distillery courtyard and its famous black tiled roofs. Much space is taken by the intricate filing system with details of all samples from growers and distillers who supply Hennessy; their stocks of mature cognac are the largest in the region. The firm's own 1,200-acre vineyards supply 15 per cent, a further 50 per cent comes from growers who sell their wine for them to distill. Another 20 per cent comes from distillers of new eaux-de-vie, made under the company's supervision.

The other 15 per cent comes from 450 distillers of cognac more than a year old, working on what is called "a contract of mutual trust". No cognac is sold by the firm until it is more than three years old. Few consumers drinking the older, more luxurious varieties like VSOP (very special old pale) probably realize that as many as 80 different cognacs may have contributed to the blend. So it is not surprising that M. Filloux says: "I never taste alone. I dislike it, like most

of my colleagues. There is such a sense of insecurity."

Working with him are his nephew, M. Yan Filloux (representing the seventh generation in the firm) and M. Jacques Lainé, who was assistant taster to his father. They usually begin at 10 am, taking two hours to taste 40 samples. "We stop when we get tired."

On days when the three cannot finish in the morning, they may taste a further 15 to 20 samples in the late afternoon. Maurice says he never accepts official luncheon invitations on such days, eats very lightly, and does not feel like drinking cognac after dinner. "So I really enjoy it when I go out with friends."

During the winter, the tasters' hardest day is Wednesday, when from 9 am until about 7 pm they receive between 40 and 50 producers, bringing two or three samples which they taste together. "Conversation is endless, from serious analysis of the samples to their family problems, and local gossip. It can get exhausting, but it is often amusing," Maurice says, suddenly breaking into a search of local dialect. The typical Charentais producer, he considers, is "immensely calm, stubborn and honest". Tasting is done in elegant tulip-shaped glasses, over 5in tall from base to brim. Those bulbous balloons, beloved of so many of our restaurateurs, are never seen in Cognac.

On a lovely early November day, when the Charente basked in Indian summer sunshine, we drove over to

the oldest Hennessy chateau (store above ground level) to Le Paradis, the silent, much-cobwebbed home of their most venerable and valuable stock, some of which is up to 150 years old.

"These are not museum pieces. We use a small portion of them in our luxury blends like XO and Extra." He also explained the long-standing tradition, passed from father to son, that the best examples of Reserve Nouvelle cognacs from five to 50 years old will not be touched in his lifetime, but put aside for the generations to come. In 1815, he tasted an exquisite 1815, still kept in the cask, and a voluptuous 1900.

There is no exact rule about how long cognac can mature in wood, but when it reaches its limit there, it is transferred to glass demijohns which keep it stable. The name of Napoleon brandy by French law now refers to a type of cognac which must be more than five years old. I know the names Louis XIV and Louis XV were tried out and had no sales appeal. "Napoleon, however, sells well in duty-free shops—and to the Japanese."

Between May and September, the tasters must check on the extent of evaporation, and on the alcoholic degree of every one of 200,000 casks. It takes them about four and a half months to evaluate the development of between 1,500 and 2,000 different cognacs, destined later for a variety of blends. "Like people, some wear well, and mature better, while others decline."



Maurice Filloux never manages to take more than a week or 10 days' holiday, usually in April, and generally to seek the sun.

Maurice Filloux tasting beneath his father's portrait.

result of four years' work by him and his colleagues to determine the required blend. The demand for something lighter and easier to drink than the previous VSOP (this grandfather's blend) is what we hope to satisfy."

Can M. Filloux define the qualities he seeks when blending a cognac? He replies: "That is almost impossible. It is instinctive, guided by the good fortune of being born to this tradition and rooted in this soil."

Eye, nose and palate detect 'le vrai' armagnac

by Geoffrey Weston

Armagnac is the oldest brandy-producing area in France. Tucked away to the north-east of the Pyrenees, and unlike Cognac, cut off from easy access to ports, the producers depended for centuries on the shippers in

Bordeaux who used to sell armagnac simply as brandy or eau de vie d'Aquitaine.

Production is only a tenth of that in Cognac and is remarkably fragmented. There are 18,000 growers of vines, mostly on mixed farms, of whom 1,300 make armagnac. After the harvest the owners of travelling stills, which resemble horse-drawn fire engines (alambics), would move the area and distil the wine at the vineyards. Today it is more economical to collect the wine in tankers and carry it to a central distillery, although there is no clear-cut pattern in the industry and a dozen of the old travelling stills are in use today.

The present appellations, fixed in 1909, apply only to the spirit and not to the local white wine from which it is made. Three stars (not younger than three years for the British market) and VSOP (at least four years old) are standard categories. Five-year-old armagnac carries a variety of names according to the producer but includes XO, Napoleon, Vieille Réserve and Hors d'Age. All of these are blends but some producers offer vintage armagnac, which is the fine distillation of just one year.

There are still people who remember the categories *filons quatre* and *filons six*—bottles with four or six loops of string round the necks to indicate the quality to illiterate bartenders. Many other oddities survive from earlier years. The floors of the *chais* (warehouses) are spotless, but as Pierre Jannéau, one of the best known producers, points out, the spider webs are left for a purpose.

Chestnut bands that traditionally protect the belly of the cask when it is moved are attacked by wood-boring insects which are kept under control by the spiders which feed on them.

Another producer, Sempé, offers armagnac in bottles of 30 different shapes, including the traditional flat Basque bottle. This practice is likely to fall victim to commercial pressures.

Making armagnac, in spite of modern bottling and marketing techniques, is still shrouded in mystery and depends a great deal on the skill and craftsmanship of individuals. Most producers use a continuous still which the wine enters at a regulated rate, but the heat and flow must be checked and controlled manually. At one distillery I visited earlier this month, three men worked in shifts around the clock and in the evenings each of the wives in turn would bring food to cook by the wood fire of the still and the family would sit down to dinner near by.

The stills themselves are a riot of copper, an essential material, with domed chambers like the cupolas atop Moscow's St Basil's Cathedral. An experiment to distil in glass containers proved a failure because the spirit did not then mature in the cask, apparently through the lack of a copper content.

Opinions are divided over the merits of the pot still (the cognac method) a double distillation method which is not continuous but has been tried apparently with success by some producers.

Blending takes place immediately after distillation in huge vats. If the new vintage is poor, the taster may have to improve it with proportions of armagnac from earlier years or from other areas. There are three sub-regions—Bas Armagnac, which gives the spirit its fineness, Ténarèze, which gives it body and lasting

aroma, and to a much lesser extent Haut Armagnac, which is switching increasingly to red wine production. It is the soil which gives fine armagnacs their characteristic aroma of prunes (or in a few cases violets) that lingers in the glass long after it has been drained.

Much of the skill is wielded by the *maître de chai*, who relies on his eye, nose and palate to nurse the casks during the aging process. The casks themselves are made from oak trees grown in Gascony and the slaves are split with an axe to avoid cutting across the grain, thereby reducing seepage. Three per cent a year is lost by evaporation, known locally as "the angels' share".

The spirit is coloured by the oak and flavoured by its tannin, but after a few months it must be transferred to older casks to prevent the tannin content becoming too concentrated. Several cask changes are necessary during the maturing process. Production has dropped in recent years, and this year's is especially small, although sales to Britain, the fifth largest market, are rising.

Producers vary from the Marquis de Montesquieu, who uses his own ancient vineyard and prunes in armagnac, which sells well to a modern French soldier in individual bottles, all now owned by a family, who moved their business to the twelfth-century family chateau only

three years ago. Since 1962 most of the small producers have been represented by a union of cooperatives (UCVA), which sells mainly under the name Marquis de Caussade.

Although 16 brands are now sold in Britain, three local products are not exported. They are *floc de Gasconne* (a new wine fortified with armagnac, not yet on the market), *pousse rapière* (a cocktail made from a local sparkling wine with an orange and armagnac liqueur) and prunes in armagnac, which sells well to the ribald for the qualities of their contents.



A closer look at two classic styles of sherry.

The qualities that distinguish a great wine from an ordinary wine are colour, bouquet and taste.

The qualities that distinguish a classic fino are a very pale golden colour, a fresh delicate bouquet, and a very crisp dry taste. Luncheon Dry is just such a fino, and is always best served chilled.

The qualities of a classic amontillado are a richer light amber colour, a distinctive aroma, and a medium dry taste which has taken on a particular nuttiness from ageing in cask.

Such are the distinguishing characteristics of Club Amontillado.

LUNCHEON DRY & CLUB AMONTILLADO
from Harvey's of Bristol



Armagnac trickling from a still.

The story of LODOERNIU

It may come as a surprise to many people to learn that today the largest single producer of sparkling wine by the méthode champenoise in the world is actually an old-established Catalan family firm called Codorniu—although it is not quite so surprising when one learns that the Codorniu estate, in the provinces of Barcelona and Lerida, is 20,000 acres in extent—or very nearly half the size of the entire champagne field of France. In fact there is documentary evidence to show that the firm of Codorniu was already in existence in 1531. In 1659 the last heir of the family, Maria Ana Codorniu, was married to Miguel Raventos. And it was a descendant of this distinguished house, Jose Raventos, who in 1872 unearthed the first bottle, produced in a Spanish cellar, of sparkling wine made strictly according to Dom Pérignon's méthode champenoise.

Today, the Codorniu estate at San Sadurn de Noya, 20 miles from Barcelona, attracts up to 160,000 visitors every year when you go there you will see why. The main buildings are built around a country house: away into the distance, out towards the mountains of Montserrat, stretch the vineyards with their four types of grape—the white Xarello, Macabeo and Parellada, and the black Monastrell. Who could imagine that, beneath it all, were ten miles of man-made caves, on five levels—the largest, and still growing, underground wine cellars in the world—containing about 100 million bottles of wine.

U.K. Importers
Codorniu (United Kingdom) Ltd.,
Burlington Buildings,
Orford Place, Norwich, NR1 3RU
Telephone 0603 618615

Importers for
Republic of Ireland
Woodford Bourne and Company Ltd.,
64 Patrick Street, Cork, Ireland,
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Thou dost not have to be German to enjoy

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SOMETIMES ONE HAS TO WIN

After more than two weeks, the advantage in the firemen's strike appears to be moving clearly towards the Government. In the early days, it seemed very possible that the public fear induced by a type of industrial action never before experienced on a national scale might create an irresistible pressure for capitulation. But as the days have passed, not without fire or casualties, the situation has become less unfamiliar. However, the danger of fire, the danger for each family remains statistically remote. In this sense, a union that provides some convenient everyday service may bring more pressure to bear than one that saves lives. The TUC has held its own. Unions have been more forthcoming with verbal than financial support, and the most urgent question seems increasingly to be how long the firemen can last without strike pay.

It is true that where public safety is concerned alarm can grow quickly and unpredictably: one serious fire in a hospital or old people's home could still cause a public revulsion against the Government. The firemen's readiness to offer help if lives are in danger (for which they deserve all credit) has itself tended to prevent panic. The longer the strike goes on, the better reason the Government has to be ready to ride out any temporary gusts of public opinion. The chosen formula for wage restraint does not make

it obligatory to hold every group to 10 per cent; initially, there might have been a case for allowing the firemen a little over the odds. But their determination to hold out for 30 per cent or more made compromise impossible. Once they had gone on strike the Government (itself had no choice but to resist. Surrender would have been to invite every employer in the private sector to do the same, whatever the merits of the demands they were faced with.

Nor is the firemen's claim more than marginally exceptional. In view of the failure of so many attempts to set up an acceptable link between their pay and that of other kinds of workers, there is no surer way of judging their rates than to ask whether recruits are still coming forward in adequate numbers. In spite of exceptions in particular areas, no evidence has been produced to suggest that national recruitment problems exist even on a scale comparable with the sometimes exaggerated ones of the police. Firemen's work is dangerous, though in terms of fatal accidents no more so than work on a farm. Their earnings are not low—certainly not by comparison with farm labourers or some of the soldiers in the Grenadiers—and their job involves very obvious non-monetary personal rewards. Their hours are to be reduced in a few months with no loss of pay.

One widely canvassed way out of the deadlock would be to make it illegal for firemen to strike, and to give them a large award by way of compensation. An invitation to give up the strike weapon would scarcely commend itself to the union at the very moment when a strike had brought a big rise within their reach. The fortunes of the police in recent years might seem an encouraging long-term precedent. Since a prohibition on striking by any large and determined body of workers would in practice be unenforceable in our society, the proposal would offer no real guarantee against future action. As for the immediate consequences, it would be the percentage gain, not the notional sacrifice, that would impress itself on other claimants.

For better or worse, the case of the firemen has gained a crucial significance in this year's pay round. There is still scope for yielding a couple of percentage points as a face-saver. There is need for new and more purposeful talks about relating rates to that of some comparable group or groups. But when the firemen's leaders meet Mr Callaghan today they must understand that in the national context the overriding issue now at stake is not the details of their claim, but the authority of the Government, which, with or without an incomes policy, is the employer in the public sector.

TWO OXEN CONDEMNED TO ONE YOKE

"One can be a good Catholic, like most Poles, and at the same time be an active participant in the construction of a socialist state, as most Poles are," said Mr Edward Gierlek, the Polish party leader, in 1974. This week, during his visit to Italy, he will be the first communist leader of Poland to be received by the Pope. It will be an event of historic importance, showing how far Church and State have moved since the bitter confrontations of the 1950s. The relationship is still not nearly as easy as Mr Gierlek's optimistic remarks suggest. There is still a fundamental ideological confrontation and a struggle for the basic loyalty of the nation. There is also a constant tug-of-war over specific issues. But there is also mutual respect, an awareness of common concern for the national interest, and an increasing element of healthy realism on both sides.

The role of the Church has been described as that of a loyal opposition because it rejects the atheistic basis of communism and defend the rights of believers, and because it regards itself as having more real historical legitimacy than the present regime as defender

not only of the faith but of the Polish nation. It therefore felt called upon to protest with some success as it turned out, against a new draft constitution which seemed to limit Polish sovereignty. But just because it sees itself as representing the Polish nation it is also loyal at every point where it believes the regime to be acting in the national interest. "Next to God, our first love is Poland," Cardinal Wyszyński has said.

The delicate balance between loyalty and opposition was most severely tested after the four-year rise in June last year. On the one hand the Church saw the need for price rises and the danger of a breakdown in public order. On the other hand it has felt more and more called upon to champion the rights not only of citizens but of citizens in general, and particularly the new urban working classes, among whom its authority could be in the long run diminished, as in other industrial societies. In September the bishops issued a two-part appeal. On the one hand they called on the people for increased effort and "solid work"; and "sacrifices for the common good and to preserve social order".

On the other hand they called on the state "to cease its oppression of workers who took part in the anti-government protests". Those sentenced should be amnestied. The Government, however, did not play fair. It published the first part without the second. The Church then moved steadily into more open defence of the workers and of the committee set up on their behalf by a number of intellectuals.

With the possibility of more trouble this winter if prices are increased, as they will have to be at some point, the Government will be anxious to make making the same type of mistake again. It needs the support of the Church both in the short run to discourage disorder and in the long run to win the type of national legitimacy which only the Church can bestow. The Church's response is likely to be conditional, as always, on its being accorded the respect due to it and its members, but it is also unlikely to relinquish its claim to be judge of when the interests of the regime and the nation are in reasonable harmony. Mr Gierlek's visit to the Vatican is a hopeful indication that for the moment they are regarded as being so.

MR FUKUDA BREAKS THE MACMILLAN RECORD

In any western democracy a Cabinet upheaval so great as to replace all but two of the old members would mark a crisis in the affairs of the ruling party at the very least. Only issues of national concern could justify it. Such assumptions may be mistaken in assessing Mr Fukuda's new team in Japan. This is partly because politics and political leaders occupy a much lower status in the public mind in Japan's democracy than they do in the West—a fact that it is hard for the western democrats to grasp. Indeed, since the Lockheed scandal and Mr Tanaka's fall that status may have declined even more. For all their favoured "low posture" approach, however, there are times when the Japanese Government must react. Japan's mounting trade surplus with the United States and with the European Community has now become the most urgent matter of external relations.

The new Cabinet looks much more workmanlike than the old in which several appointments were a response to party pressures. In particular the new men include some who are well placed to tackle the crucial issue of the trade imbalance. Mr

Kuchi Miyazawa goes to the Economic Planning Agency and Mr Nobuhiko Uehara, not long retired from the embassy in Washington, to a new post as Minister for External Economic Affairs. Both are able spokesmen for Japan who are also familiar with western conditions and attitudes.

But ministerial changes may not be enough to alter very quickly the ever-increasing trade imbalance any more than it promises to be righted of itself by the ever-rising yen. Here, too, basic Japanese feelings are at stake. Japan's economy is unquestionably part of the world economy of the advanced nations but Japan has not yet, in any active and committed way, brought herself to be a part of that world. Hence a response that is defensive, seeking acceptance and justifying it by the unanswerable argument of Japan's efficiency as an exporter, while at the same time standing aside somewhat from an international responsibility.

Another urgent matter of external relations arises from the appointment of Mr Sumao Sonoda as Foreign Minister. He is known as a supporter of the long-delayed treaty with China.

Japan has hitherto been unwilling to accept the clause opposing hegemony on which the Chinese insist but which the Russians complain is directed against them. If Japan signs this, they have said—and *Pravda* said it again last week—it would be regarded as an unfriendly gesture in Moscow.

Can Mr Fukuda find an acceptable formula? Even if the Chinese are prepared to be flexible it is unlikely to be one that will mollify the Russians. Besides, the Russians have yet to sign their treaty ending the war with Japan, the obstacle in that quarter being the seized northern islands which the Russians refuse to return to Japanese sovereignty. Faced with such manoeuvres it is not surprising that the Japanese should have piped up with their own retort by referring to the Sino-Soviet treaty signed in 1950 and valid for thirty years joining the two communist powers against Japan or any power allied with Japan—is that not cause for present protest? All these are problems for an undecided Japan that will not be solved simply by reshuffling Cabinets.

Refurbishing the SS image

From Mr Frank Ziegler
Sir, It needed someone like Terence Pringle (November 21), whose excellent reports on Germany for *The Times* have been a constant reminder of the emotion and confusion that the SS still seems to engender.

From 1946 to 1947 I was a member of the Review and Interrogation staff at an internment camp like the one he visited. The bulk of the 6,000 or so inmates comprised former SS personnel—including members of the Allgemeine SS, Gestapo and SD—and officials of the NSDAP (party) hierarchy, and our job was to interrogate, classify and release as many inmates as Allied security and military government policy permitted. But the SS having been adjudged a criminal organization by Nuremberg, we were not allowed to release during the whole of this period, even though the Waffen SS (the majority) consisted mainly of quite junior NCOs as guides of any crime as the one interviewed by Mr Pringle. Even members of the Totenkopf (Dead's Head) Brigade, a unit specially concerned with supplying guards for concentration camps, solemnly swore that

they themselves had no dealings with the prisoners at all.

Obviously some individuals and some units of the Waffen SS were guilty of atrocities—and our camp did contain its quota of known war criminals—but for Dr Benedikt (also November 21) to declare that "Waffen SS was one single organization and all SS divisions were engaged in criminal activities" seems rather to spoil his case by overstatement. Moreover, I think it true to say that the policy of brutality on the German eastern front was not carried out by units of the Waffen SS alone.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK ZIEGLER,
Risington,
Farnham Lane,
Haslemere,
Surrey,
November 24.

From Mr R. B. Williams
Sir, Herr Meyer is to be congratulated on the invention of his medieval euphemism for Nazi atrocities, what he calls the "negative aspect" of SS behaviour. However, his analogous reference to RM Guards should be refuted. Guards tradition has been produced by centuries of achievement, by comparison, Herr Meyer's SS units,

at their very best, could only be described as nine day wonders. Yours faithfully,
R. B. WILLIAMS,
Sometime Coldstream Guards,
9 Gordon Place,
Manchester,
November 24.

Mapping buried history

From Miss C. Lovell
Sir, The Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division has begun cancelling its subscriptions to archaeological periodicals. This is only to be expected if the appalling decision to mutilate the division is being implemented; but it raises the very important question of what is to happen to a superb working library that has been maintained at the division over a period of more than fifty years. Will it be kept in its present state, or will it be sold as a complete library? Or will it be quietly dispersed without anyone being given the chance to raise a protest? Yours faithfully,
CHERRY LAVELL,
Editor, *British Archaeological Abstracts*,
24 Fitzroy Road, NW1,
November 22.

Discontent in the services over pay

From Brigadier Sheffield Bidwell

Sir, It is some time since I was in direct contact with the rank and file of the army, but I think I can comment usefully on the article by a "serving officer" on pay (November 24). His historical notions are mistaken, to say the least. There has been no occasion on which the King's troops have either indulged in "collective bargaining" or been punished by being blown from guns. I suspect the incident concerning the Indian troops of the East India Company, far from being "regularly paid", to take one example, the pay of one of the most successful armies we ever put in the field, in the Peninsula, was often months in arrears. As for motivation, even when I joined my battery in 1934 the majority of my section were driven into the army as the choice of two evils, the other being unemployment and "doe". The soldiers were, except for a few NCOs, unmarried, and once in the army found a congenial refuge in one or other of the penitentiaries, military or civilian, which in fact were social groups which in fact were "regiments" are. However, we are concerned with recent and present times, not pre-1939.

The post-war service army was not only miserably paid but the pay of the rank and file was subject to unjust penal deductions summarily inflicted by regulation rather than the process of law under the Army Act. The reason was that the 20-year-olds engaged in physical exertion and they spent at least half their pay supplementing it in NAAFI canteens, which in turn, since the rationing of food, funds—which were used to supplement the ration! Private regimental funds, not a penny of which came from the public, bridged the gap between hunger and the ration and also provided a welfare service for soldiers and their families. The only political pressure in favour of the private soldiers was maintained by appeals by parents, and occasionally wives, to Members of Parliament. This helped, but the replies to a "ministerial enquiry" or to a question in the House addressed to the minister were not how should the unpaid wages of our armed forces be supplied by the commanding officer.

Great and beneficial reforms were made when we changed over to an all regular, volunteer army, but even then recruiting sufficient numbers of the right quality of men continued to be a constant struggle. I moved from the "adventure" of the "mad" fort, Mad Mullish, unarmoured car" image, was really so great an attraction, but active service certainly alleviated the tedium of a life spent between the barracks, the training area, the playing fields and the NAAFI. The real attraction, bearing in mind that the modern soldier is a professional—and a skilled man—was a good wage for skilled work well done, and stability. Without these men will neither enlist nor extend their service. What has happened is that instability combined with inflation has eroded the soldier's position without a change of his social collection, individual, ever being made. It might be thought the duty of the officers to speak for them, but they do not, or cannot, for reasons it would take a long time to explain. They would not care to see a "unionised" army, but of one thing I am sure: the day is not far off when it will be forced upon us.

The answer is clearly to read. Yours faithfully,
SHEFFIELD BIDWELL,
8 Chapel Lane,
Wickham Market,
Suffolk,
November 25.

From Squadron Leader A. P. Galea
Sir, The article today (November 24) on "Serving Officers' Pay" referred to the attempt to deprive short service commissioned officers of their gratuities as an "unfounded rumour". This rumour was solidly based on a Defence Council instruction to that effect. Its non-implementation to the individuals concerned was due largely to the intervention of MPs and newspaper publicity after months of unsuccessful lobbying by the officers' representatives. This attempt to alter terms of employment without reference to the people affected is but one instance of a process which has been eroding trust and loyalty within the Armed Forces.

Servicemen are rapidly coming to the conclusion that no reliance would provide a worthwhile interpretation of their dream of a "great future". Yours faithfully,
Y. PRESMAN,
67 Gondar Gardens, NW6,
November 25.

From Mr Andrew Faulds, MP for Warrley, East (Labour)
Sir, It really is unacceptable that your columnist and my colleague, Eric Moonman, who is the Chief Executive of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland should use his column (November 21) to misrepresent aspects of the Middle East problem. To talk in this way of "refugees" is to mislead. The "refugees" as one of the "substantial" political divisions between Israel and the Arab states is such an avoidance of the real issue as to be breathtaking. In a response to the question of the requirements of a Palestinian state, has now been universally recognized and that even Israel's closest ally, the United States, has come round to that view.

He writes too of "the Palestine Liberation Organization's public relations machine, which took over

can be placed on faceless government bureaucrats to treat them fairly in the absence of "union" representatives. While the majority of all ranks would have no truck with the unions there is a groundswell for a truly representative Association which the Armed Forces Pay Review Body is not. Yours sincerely,
A. P. GALEA,
4 Winchester Close,
Chippington,
Wiltshire,
November 24.

From Major-General J. Sheffield
Sir, As a result of successive financial cuts in defence the logistic base of the Services has been eroded. Soldiers have been replaced with static civilians: functions such as feeding have been centralized, and the reserve of accommodation afforded by TA Drill Halls has been liquidated.

In consequence there has been a loss of mobility and the Services are now expected to literally pull the politicians' chestnut out of the fire with totally inadequate resources. Yours, etc.,
J. SHEFFIELD,
11 Pitt Street, W8,
November 23.

From Mr Graham M. Neil
Sir, I was full of admiration for the Lieutenant-Colonel in Manchester who had the courage to speak publicly about the pay and conditions of his men.

As any good commander clearly has the interests of his officers and men at heart but in making a public statement he himself takes the risk of being disciplined by his senior officers with possible jeopardy to his own military future.

I hope that Mr Mulley, having read his report, has the same courage as his subordinate and supports his views. Obviously there is a problem, otherwise a soldier at the present stage of his career would not have sacrificed as much as he has done. Yours, etc.,
G. M. NEIL,
74 Grosvenor Street, W1.

The Palestinian issue

From Mr Elkan Pressman
Sir, During the Yom Kippur war you were kind enough to publish a letter from me in which I called for the Israeli Government to declare that every Jewish citizen was to be treated as a Jew.

Now that Mr Begin has himself made such a declaration, a further step forward along the lines of a Palestinian state is indicated. I am glad to see that Mr Macmillan and Mr Frank in *The Times* today (November 25) becomes a real possibility. This is a proposal entirely in keeping with the Zionist dream of a Jewish state, which is the only one previously declared principles—except those of the "rejectionists"—on both sides.

All who regard themselves as friends of Israel should now urge both the Israeli Government and opposition to declare that such a confederation is their long term aim. And let Mr Begin's supporters in particular see that this indeed

would provide a worthwhile interpretation of their dream of a "great future". Yours faithfully,
Y. PRESMAN,
67 Gondar Gardens, NW6,
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He writes too of "the Palestine Liberation Organization's public relations machine, which took over

where the Nazis left off in urging the destruction of the Jewish people". This is totally untrue and the must be aware that when Christopher Mayhew offered a substantial sum to anyone who could provide evidence of such an intention, they were not asked to substantiate such an untrue allegation and got a penny was paid. Even Eric Moonman must have heard of Yasser Arafat's offer at the UN that the Jewish community that in Israel/Palestine would be entitled to stay in that land.

And for a respected colleague to dismiss the murderous attacks by the Air Force of the State of Israel in Southern Lebanon as "regrettable" is totally dishonest. Such attacks are a massive overreaction to isolated guerrilla incidents and would be the result of an international outcry if the perpetrators were any other than the Israelis with the international Zionist connections throughout the mass media of the Western world. Responsible writing should be the first requirement of one of your regular columnists. Yours faithfully,
ANDREW FAULDS,
House of Commons.

World living standards

From Professor M. W. Thring
Sir, In your leading editorial of November 22 you wisely and thoughtfully controlled the long-term strategy appropriate for the British steel industry. I would, however, like to query one point, your use of the phrase "when the recession is over".

It is normal in all strategic planning to assume that we shall return to a period of economic growth in the not too distant future. I believe there are strong technological reasons for supposing that in the long term there will be little if any more growth in average standard of living in the developed countries and indeed there must be a steady contraction as far as the use of raw materials and energy is concerned.

Clearly all growth curves must come to a stop, due to the limitation of the earth's resources, among which one most particularly menaces the world's energy supply—coal and high grade iron ore. The overriding factor, however, is that it is essential to have a substantial growth in the standard of living of the under-developed countries of the world over-population and World War Three are to be avoided.

Four areas which are necessary for the future life of humanity on a satisfactory basis are:

1 Genuine human service, such as nursing and teaching. Surely it is better to have classes of eight to ten in the schools than to have potential teachers unemployed.

2 Agriculture: Everything we do in farming is to save labour, and is based on cheap oil. Again, it is more

satisfactory to turn farms into kitchen gardens than to have people doing nothing.

3 There are many areas of industrial activity which at present are uneconomic and yet which are essential for the future. These include fuel saving equipment and alternative energy equipment (solar and wind), waste recycling and extraction of pollutants from air and water.

4 As a final measure, if there is to be a job for everyone, rather than a dole for doing nothing, we have to return in certain areas to William Morris's idea of making things which are more humanly satisfying when they are made by hand.

I believe that unless we can begin to study the basic problems of the twenty-first century in this kind of way we shall continue to go from one short-term expedient solution to another, while the underlying problems of exhaustion of natural resources, population growth in the under-developed countries and arms escalation grow worse. Yours sincerely,
M. W. THRING,
Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Queen Mary College,
University of London,
Mile End Road, E1.

From Mr Ian Rattu
Sir, All Romanian democrats will welcome Dr Immanuel Jakobovits' sensitive and authoritative reporting on Romanian Jewry today ("For Romania's Jews, the scars are healing", November 17). We are happy to have the Chief Rabbi's confirmation that an older, truer, Romanian tradition has at last displaced the right-wing aberrations of the thirties.

For the sake of the historical truth one should perhaps also record that Romania steadfastly refused to deliver one single "concentration" of Jews for the gas chambers. The 425,000 Jewish victims attributed to Romania in the "Yad Vashem" memorial in Jerusalem should rightly be chalked up against the Hungarians, the Russians and the Germans who ruled Northern Transylvania, Besarabia and Northern Bukovina during the holocaust. The Jews in those areas were practically wiped out.

I condemn, unreservedly, the isolated excesses committed, notably at Iassy and Bucharest, but, in my considered view, the numbers of Jews in territories that stayed Romanian throughout the last war actually increased, which explains the present 250,000 plus Israeli citizens of Romanian origin. Yours faithfully,
ION RATTU,
54-52 Regent Street, W1.

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Case for a free currency

From Mr John G. Phillips
Sir, Lord Balogh's letter to your congratulating the Chancellor of the Exchequer for "his sound and sensible" exchange controls (November 24) typifies the myopic Socialist approach that has brought the affairs of this country to so low an ebb.

For many of us it is a cause for amazement that such a leading industrial country, we have been denied the prestige and the benefits of a free currency for the past 38 years. And now, if ever, is the time to free it, with North Sea oil practically guaranteeing us a favourable balance of payments for some years ahead.

In any case, we are not bound, under our commitments to the EEC, to allow free movement of capital by next year.

Lord Balogh seems to assume that, if exchange controls were removed, everyone would rush to invest abroad. He is a poor psychologist. By creating demand overseas for our currency by removing its props, both Britons and foreigners would be more likely to feel confidence in sterling and the British industry, than they are today.

Lord Balogh makes the surprising assertion that British industrial leadership has been "undiminished since at least 1673" by the death of Oliver Cromwell. No doubt, he will be revealing his evidence to Sir Harold Wilson's Committee, even though he denies it to your readers.

In fact our investments abroad, outside the square-rigged, have brought untold benefits to the country, not just by the dividends brought back, as he unimaginatively suggests, but by developing worldwide sources of cheap funds for our people and new materials for our industries, by creating demand overseas for our industrial products, and through the vast related insurance and shipping income that forms so large an element in the invisible export surplus that has saved our bacon for so many years past. Not to mention the fact that, had it not been for the accumulation of these great overseas assets by our hard-working forebears, we should have been hard put to it to survive the two world wars of this century. Yours faithfully,
JOHN PHILLIMORE,
The Postern,
Postern Lane,
Tonbridge, Kent,
November 25.

South African doctors

From Dr R. A. Storrington
Sir, It seems from your report today (November 23) of the Steve Biko inquiry that an investigation ought to be carried out into the medical competence and professional conduct of the doctors who examined Mr Biko, in particular Dr Benjamin Twigg.

If such an inquiry is not carried out by the medical authorities, South Africa in the near future may find itself with a reputation for medical competence and professional conduct. Yours faithfully,
R. A. STORRINGTON,
Barking Hospital,
Upney Lane,
Barking, Essex.

Saving historic ships

From Mr Frank Carr
Sir, In his letter (November 25) Dr Robert Clarke calls attention to the omission of the American whaler *Charles W. Morgan* from my article (November 19) on the preservation of historic ships. I had not forgotten her, but she was a small vessel built in 1841 for a limited trade, that of catching whales. The *Constitution*, also square-rigged, like-wise survives, but she was built as a warship in 1797. Neither is 1899, as was the *Kaiwaka* of 1899, of the last American built sailing merchantman, which is what I had in mind.

To rectify the issue, I would quote from the Fall, 1977 number of *Sea History*, the journal of the National Maritime Historical Society, in which the President, Mr Peter Stanford, writes:

"The National Society was formed in 1963... to save the sea's last remnants of the American people, and to see her restored as the last surviving American deepwater tug to carry passengers and freight under sail—the last of the square riggers that built the United States and made the Republic's flag famous at sea."

The failure of that project dramatically emphasizes my argument that financial backing is as necessary as dedicated enthusiasm if historic craft are to be saved for posterity. Yours faithfully,
FRANK CARR,
10 Park Gate,
Blackheath, SE3.

Questioning the preacher

From Mr Bernard Denvir
Sir, Congregations in the past have not always been as unresponsive as Mr. H. P. Lovecraft's columns (November 22). On May 16 1932 Mario Sazoum noted a letter from Carlo Capello, the Venetian Ambassador to England, in which he recounted that "On the 13th inst. St Paul's an individual preached in favour of the divorce, and a woman stood up and told him aloud that he lied, and that this example in a king would be the destruction of the laws of matrimony, which is one of the holiest and strongest ties, whereby a man is restrained within the limits of civil and Christian existence".

The fact that she was arrested may of course have helped to discourage what today, we would doubtless describe as "vital" later personal communication patterns on theological themes in a "bureaucratic" context emerging as freely as they might otherwise have done. Yours, etc.,
BERNARD DENVIR,
40 Dover Street, W1.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Mini revolution
in Russia's
ear plants,
page 19

Big banks divided over size of increase in base lending rates

By Ronald Pullen
Banking Correspondent

Uncertainty over the short-term outlook for interest rates has led to sharp differences of opinion among clearing banks over base rates.

Leading the way, National Westminster announced an increase in its base rate early in the day of a full 1½ per cent to 7½ per cent. This was followed by Lloyds which raised its rate by 1 point to 7 per cent.

Barclays, usually the pacesetter on base rate changes, and Midland both preferred to wait to see "how interest rates shape up" before changing their base rates.

Apart from Coutts, part of the NatWest group, the other banks are taking a back seat until they see which way Barclays and Midland move. The rises are in response to the increase to 7 per cent from 5½ per cent in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate.

To buttress the profitability of their domestic banking operations, which have come under mounting strain this year as a result of the rapid fall in interest rates, NatWest and Lloyds have widened the margin between the base and deposit rates from 3 to 3½ per cent. NatWest is raising the rate on seven-day branch deposits by a point to 4 per cent while Lloyds has kept the increase down to ½ per cent to 3½ per cent.

A split on base rates last developed just over a year ago

when Barclays pushed up its rate to 14 per cent, half a point more than the other three clearers for a brief period.

The major banks can stay out of line for a short time, particularly with a growing proportion of lending to corporate customers now based on money market rather than base rates, but the competitive pressures are such that account switching would develop over the longer term.

Money market rates, however, failed to give a decisive lead to base rates yesterday. The key indicator for base rates, three month inter-bank rate, continued to firm through the day to close at almost 7 per cent, but it was not strong enough to suggest another rise in MLR this week.

If rates do level out it seems likely that Lloyds could turn out to have reached the increase correctly. But Mr John Montgomery, chief general manager of Lloyds, was leaving his options open by saying that should there be a further rise in the general level of rates we may well have to increase our base rate further.

Both Barclays and Midland are expected to make their base rate moves in the next day or so.

While base rate changes will be reflected in overdraft borrowing—personal customers pay between 3 and 5 per cent over base rate—there is little chance of any immediate change in the costs of borrowing elsewhere.

Hattersley guidelines for review of competition

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

An inter-departmental working party to review competition policy was announced yesterday by Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The review, with an interim report called for as a matter of urgency by the spring, could result in the criteria governing the assessment of the desirability of particular mergers and monopolies being rewritten.

Mr Hattersley made it clear that it was possible existing mergers could be affected once new guidelines were issued. But in that respect there could be practical difficulties, he pointed out.

He was looking to more government intervention in pursuit of an increase of efficiency, including an encouragement of competition. This could spread to the securities market, he said.

Asked if that meant the Government was moving towards the setting up of a system like the Securities and Exchange Commission in the United States, Mr Hattersley said that would mean waiting for the working party's report, as well as that of the Wilson committee.

Possible changes in mergers and monopoly policy will be the first priority of the review, which will then move on to other aspects of competition policy such as restrictive trading practices, where the question of the professions is expected to have a big part.

The working party has also been asked to consider whether the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the Price Commission should be fused into one organisation.

At the moment Mr Hattersley is inclined to favour such a fusion, but there are expected to be arguments that one body should investigate and a separate one make judicial judgments, rather than the OFT and Monopolies Commission do at present.

Major changes from the review are some likely to be a job for the next Government, rather than the last session of the present one. A discussion Green Paper may be issued in due course.

The review has been prompted by increasing concern about the growing concentration of British industry.

Mr Hattersley maintained that there was no clash with the Government's industrial strategy which could lead to a nationalisation of companies. Decisions there needed to be made on a case-by-case basis. He planned to amend the Fair Trading Act 1973 as soon as possible to make this clear in relation to mergers.

Nationalised industries, now under Price Commission scrutiny, will not come within the scope of the review.

In reassessing competition criteria the working party will look at problems of product domination and whether market share benchmarks will need to be changed. The position of conglomerate companies will be scrutinised.

Financial Editor, page 19

US trade deficit grows by \$3,100m

By Caroline Atkinson

America's trade gap widened to a record \$3,100m (about £1,700m) in October. This was about \$600m larger than market expectations and compares with a September deficit of \$1,700m.

The dollar is steadily weakened on the news. It touched DM 2.21 and 2.14 Swiss francs—both record lows—before recovering slightly at the London close. Japan held the yen down to close at 240.25 to the dollar.

But the size of the deficit last month to some extent exaggerates the underlying trade gap. A dock strike on the east coast of America has distorted the payments figures for both September and October.

It began on October 1 and some exports were brought forward in anticipation. There was a large rise in overseas sales in September and a consequent drop of \$1,730m in October to \$9,190m. Imports also fell, to \$12,290m from \$12,530m.

A new study by the chief economist of the Department of Commerce, pointed this out when announcing the October figure yesterday.

She said that the widening of the deficit in October stemmed from temporary factors rather than from a worsening in the underlying position.

When September and October are averaged the performance on both imports and exports seems little different from the previous six months at about \$10,000m and \$12,500m respectively.

So far this year the United States has been in deficit by \$22,400m compared with a deficit of \$4,400m in the first 10 months of last year. This spectacular deterioration has been the reason for the dollar's fall against major currencies in the past few months.

Latest figures show the United States trade gap running at an annual rate of \$27,000m. This is in line with recent forecasts both from the American Administration and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris.

An expected surplus on invisible trade should make the current account deficit about \$10,000m.

The size of the gap is due to huge

increases in oil imports, and the relatively weak demand for American exports. The latter in turn reflects the much faster growth in America than in the rest of the industrialized world.

Last month's figures were helped by a drop of 3.9 per cent in oil imports. The dollar's fall so far this year has been concentrated against the strong Japanese, German, Swiss and British currencies.

In effective terms the rate is scarcely changed from the level of a year ago, and only about 2½ per cent down on its best level of this year.

Gold: The price of gold jumped by \$3.25 an ounce in London yesterday to close at \$161.625. Dealers attributed the rise to a general unwillingness to sell in view of the dollar's continued weakness.

The price is still well down on its recent highs of \$167-\$168 an ounce. Sterling closed up 0.1 on the effective exchange rate index at 83.4, with a five-point gain against the dollar at \$1.8190. The dollar closed at DM 2.214 and 2.143 Swiss francs.

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Peace call by stewards at Tyne yard

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Outfitting workers employed by Swan Hunter at its Tyne-side yard will this morning be asked to lift their three-month overtime ban which threatens a £50m contract. British Shipbuilders wants to place with the company as part of the £115m Polish shipbuilding contract.

The 1,700 workers will attend the mass meeting this morning at which the shop stewards will recommend a return to normal working. The breakthrough came after more than four hours of crucial discussions between national leaders and the shop stewards.

British Shipbuilders had sought written guarantees from Swan's workers and all others involved in the Polish contract on full cooperation and normal working in order to secure the tough delivery provisions of the contract and avoid heavy penalty payments.

But the shop stewards had refused to provide the guarantees and lift the ban despite warnings from British Shipbuilders that the orders would be reallocated to other yards.

In that event, Swan Hunter, which is running out of work, would have issued redundancy notices to 700 workers.

After yesterday's talks on Tyne-side, Mr Gavin Laird, national executive members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said: "We have been in touch with British Shipbuilders and we would not be putting the onus on the men tomorrow morning."

He said that the position will be that the seven ships will come to this part of the world.

The outfitting workers have been operating the overtime ban in support of demand for pay parity with boilermakers employed at the yard. This would involve a rise of more than £7 a week, and breach the Government's pay guidelines.

Last night a spokesman for British Shipbuilders said: "If the meeting decides to lift the overtime ban and we get the written guarantees, then there is little doubt that these ships will be confirmed with Swan Hunter."



Mr Frank Chapple (left), general secretary of the electricians' union, Mr Dennis Rooke, chairman of the British Gas Corporation, at yesterday's meeting

Iran supports two-year price freeze by Opec

By Roger Veldvay

Iran has again said it will support a further freeze on oil prices when the 13 ministers from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries meet in Venezuela next month to fix prices for 1978.

After the Shah's Washington statement that Iran would back moves for an extension of the price freeze, Mr Jamschid Amouzegar, its Prime Minister, told a Kuwaiti newspaper yesterday that he would support a two-year freeze.

Iran was once among the leading advocates of higher oil prices but their move into the moderate camp should ensure that Saudi Arabia, the traditional price moderate within Opec, should have little difficulty in imposing an extension of 1977 prices into 1978, even against the will of the other members.

Mr Amouzegar said that a price rise could adversely affect the balance of payments in developing countries and would not be advisable during a serious glut of oil throughout the world, which was forcing some Opec members to sell crude at below agreed levels. He did not name these countries.

Energy panel favours AGR development

By Roger Veldvay

Although Iran and Saudi Arabia make a formidable partnership around the Opec conference table, they can expect some opposition from many of the other members, although Opec sources do not expect any of them to dissent publicly from an extension of the price freeze.

Meanwhile Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia's staunchest supporter in prices, is reported to have cut the 1978 ceiling on production by 16.4 per cent, according to a Middle East Economic Survey.

North Sea costs up! The cost of extracting crude oil from the North Sea is still rising steeply, according to Dr Jack Birks, technical director of BP Trading.

He estimated yesterday that a company contemplating the commercial exploitation of the AGR and the American pre-saturated water reactors (PWRs), as suggested by the Central Electricity Generating Board, a decision is expected before Christmas.

Mr Birks said concern was expressed at the day-long meeting of the Commission that development of both systems might stretch resources too thinly and affect the British industry's ability to continue research into the fast breeder reactor.

After minor amendments, Mr Benn is expected to publish the first of the Commission's policy documents as a green paper early in the New Year.

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City panel reprimands NatWest ex-employee

By Richard Allen

A £500 share dealing profit made by a National Westminster assistant bank manager has led to a public reprimand from the City Takeover Panel.

The panel has accused the former assistant manager, Mr J. R. Elliott, of insider dealing when he made a share purchase on April 13 this year.

The reprimand follows an inquiry which centred on a 50p share takeover bid by JWI, a Canadian company, for the British group C. H. Johnson & Sons. The JWI offer was made public at 4 pm on April 13.

However, early in the afternoon a copy of the announcement was noticed by Mr Elliott, who went on to make a major NatWest branch, which was involved in the negotiations.

He telephoned his stockbroker and, using the name of a friend who happened to be a client of the same firm, asked for the price of Johnson's shares.

Although it was apparent from the response that the announcement had not been made public, Mr Elliott ordered 2,000 shares in the

name of the friend and these were purchased at a price of 34p a share.

The friend who was out of the country and had no knowledge of the transaction subsequently accepted the JWI offer and paid over the profit on the deal to Mr Elliott.

The Stock Exchange launched an investigation into dealings in the shares of Johnson and the results of it were passed on to the company, which then made its own inquiries.

According to the panel, Mr Elliott, as soon as he became aware of these investigations, informed his superior at the bank of his purchase and they immediately carried out an inquiry.

In a statement issued last night the panel said that Mr Elliott was in breach of rule 30 of the Takeover Code, which covers insider dealing.

Mr Elliott, who has since left NatWest, has accepted that his action was wrong and expressed his regret to the panel. He has also said he will pay over the profit to a charity approved by the panel.

Crown Agents report for MPs on Thursday

By Maurice Corina

The report by a departmental committee of inquiry, led by Judge Edmund Fyfe, into the circumstances which led to the Crown Agents for Overseas Administrations requesting financial assistance from the Government, will be placed before the House of Commons on Thursday.

At the same time, the Government is proposing to publish a version of a previously confidential report on the Agents' status functions and financial operations, prepared in 1972 by a committee under the chairmanship of Sir Matthew Stevenson.

In view of the sensitive nature of these two reports, which will shed light on how the Crown Agents' organization became insolvent and at one

stage faced liabilities of up to £400m, the Government is expected to make a special statement to MPs and there may be a White Paper about the Crown Agents' future in the light of the Fyfe report's findings.

Yesterday there were indications that the Fyfe report will disclose names in connection with the Agents' financial disaster and commenting on the responsibilities of Whitehall departments and ministers.

The Crown Agents were bailed out by an £50m grant and a Bank of England standby facility in December 1974 and the following year there had to be an emergency Moneylenders Act covering the unincorporated Crown Agents, then exposed to £400m of risks.

A special realization account, which has helped in the rescue

of the historic business, is presently in deficit by £197m. There have been rumours that the firm's liabilities may be transferred to the Ministry of Defence.

In April 1976, the present Government published a White Paper on the Future of the Crown Agents, outlining its provisional ideas for creating a new structure, with accountability to Parliament. However, the proposals were made "subject to any modifications which may be desirable when the findings of the Fyfe committee become available".

A Government statement on Thursday will comment on the Fyfe findings and indicate its further ideas for reforms of the

organization and for dealing with government financial support beyond the original £50m grant. This will be intended to maintain the confidence of customers around the world.

More tricky is the question of providing an opportunity for anyone named in the Fyfe report to answer any allegations or comments. A judicial Tribunal may be necessary since government departments, former ministers, the Bank of England and former Crown Agents and officers are concerned. Drafting the terms of reference can be no easy task.

The powers of a Tribunal under the 1921 Criminal Justice Act were used to inquire into particular aspects of the crash of the Vehicle and General Insurance Company.

Mr Stern, whose guests at the party included the former British Shipbuilders' chief, said: "If the meeting decides to lift the overtime ban and we get the written guarantees, then there is little doubt that these ships will be confirmed with Swan Hunter."

Keyser Ullmann sues stern group chief for £1.5m

Mr William Stern, former property group chief, was sued for nearly £1,500,000 by Keyser Ullmann, in the High Court yesterday.

The claim by Ullmann against Mr Stern, whose guests at the party included the former British Shipbuilders' chief, said: "If the meeting decides to lift the overtime ban and we get the written guarantees, then there is little doubt that these ships will be confirmed with Swan Hunter."

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Kuhn Loeb in American banking merger

Lehman Brothers Inc and Kuhn Loeb and Co, two old-line United States investment banking firms, announced in London yesterday that they had agreed in principle to a merger.

Ownership of the two firms will be simply a merger of two fine names, but as a marriage of two profitable firms that complement one another.

Under the merger, which is expected to be completed by December 16, Mr Peterson will be chairman and president of the combined firm.

Mr John Schiff will be honorary chairman of the board of the combined firm, and Mr David Schiff will be a member of the board.

Eurosterling issue by Fisons

Two new Eurosterling bond issues were announced yesterday, one for £10m by Fisons, the fertilizer, pharmaceutical and agrochemical group, and the other, for £25m, by the European Investment Bank.

The Fisons issue, the first in Eurosterling by a British industrial group, will be a 10-year note, the indicated coupon being 10 per cent. Proceeds will be put towards reducing short-term indebtedness.

The EIB issue is a 15-year stock with an indicated coupon of 9½ per cent. There will be a purchase fund operating on a quarterly basis for the first 10 years.

Financial Editor, page 19

How the markets moved

The Times index: 19573-0.16
The FT index: 4645-1.5

Rises

Broken Hill	10p to 44½p
Canewry	10p to 21½p
Deu G	10p to 42½p
Glentworth	15p to 46½p
Gordon & D	3p to 16p
Harmony	10p to 28½p
Lubeana	11p to 44½p

Falls

Alroy & Sm	13p to 23½p
Brady Inc	7p to 8½p
Change Wares	1p to 15p
Dryks J	4p to 21p
Heslar	5p to 10½p
Hunting Gibson	10p to 22½p
Metals Explor	2p to 13p

Equities drifted. Gold-edged securities lost early gains. Dollar premium 55.0 per cent (effective rate 37.85 per cent). Sterling closed at 1.8190 (previous 1.8190). The effective exchange rate index was at 62.3.

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Resistance by shopfloor undermines foundry aid

By Michael Bailey
By Clifford Webb

Mr. Seligman has been warned that the Government's £80m grant aid scheme to modernize the iron foundry industry is being undermined by shop floor opposition to new methods of working in the re-equipped foundries.

This opposition is being maintained in the face of yet more factory closures. Latest returns from the Council of the Iron Foundries' Association (CIFA) show that 30 more have closed since the aid scheme was introduced in August, 1975, and recently doubled from 240m.

Mr. John Pearce, chairman of the CIFA and a member of the Ferrus Foundries' little Noddy, said yesterday that he had personally told Mr. Callaghan there was an urgent need for closer cooperation between union leaders serving on the little Noddy and their members on the shop floor.

In reply, the Prime Minister had said management and unions were partly to blame because they were slow in implementing planning agreements with the Government.

Mr. Pearce, whose own concern, Birmid Qualcast, is one of the way through a £50m modernization programme, comments on this new threat to a depressed industry in the current issue of his works newspaper Pivot.

"For some reason the industrial strategy does not seem to have been understood at factory level. In order to get the most out of investment, changes had to be made. No one likes change, and when it came to making them in manning and flexibility, operators of new plant and equipment—many who had previously agreed after full consultation—refused to work the new plant."

Appealing for more cooperation from workers, Mr. Pearce went on: "It cannot be too clearly understood how very serious is the present fall in demand for iron castings

Transport and distribution misuse costing exporters £1,000m a year

By Michael Bailey
Exports inefficiencies and delays are costing British industry £1,000m a year compared with France, Germany, and Holland, a study by the National Economic Development Office reveals.

It urges a big national effort by governments and industry to upgrade the transport and distribution sector from its present lowly place in board and managerial thinking to one in line with the fact that it absorbs 8 to 12 per cent of the delivered cost of manufactured goods abroad.

Introducing its report at a London press conference yesterday, Lord Hayter, the little Noddy chairman, declared that many United Kingdom companies did not even know who looked after their transport functions, and Britain's manu-

facturing and transport industries were hardly on speaking terms. The £1,000m figure is made up of £500m direct costs arising from inefficient and costly distribution of British exports, and a further £500m from wasted assets, manpower, and lost sales.

These costs, which are severely damaging industry, arise not from inefficiencies in Britain's transport system which is at least as good as other countries, but from industry's failure to use it efficiently. Mr. Jim Fetherston, chairman of the study group and head of one of the country's biggest freight forwarders, declared yesterday.

Exports to Europe had risen by 400 per cent since the Export to Europe conference in 1966 and road traffic through Dover

by more than 1,400 per cent, he said. While completely new patterns of transport and distribution were now available, many companies had failed to capitalize on them.

The man taking the decisions even in major United Kingdom concerns was often one with virtually no status, little professional training, and few career prospects. Nor was industry prepared to let its senior people participate in the various national bodies concerned with transport and distribution.

The report—Trading with Europe: Through Transport and the Total Export Concept—urges a major drive by government, industry, and trade associations to raise the importance and equality of distribution management in British industry.

Brussels talks on textile pact no nearer accord

From Michael Horsby
Brussels Nov 28

The European Commission today moved into the final phase of its negotiations with more than 30 textile exporters in Asia, Latin America, Africa and Europe.

With the deadline for conclusion of the negotiations only two days off, the Community has still to reach agreement with four of the biggest textile suppliers, Hongkong, India, South Korea and Brazil.

Although the European Commission is still publicly committed to completing the negotiations by November 30, it is clear that the most to be hoped for is an understanding with the major suppliers, and even that looks increasingly difficult.

The Commission's intention is to hold imports of low-cost next year to a level of about 1.1 million tonnes.

This implies an average annual growth rate of about 6 per cent against rates of up to 22 per cent in recent years. But much lower growth rates are being sought for sensitive

products.

It was hoped that by November 30 some 900,000 tonnes of textile imports would be covered by quota arrangements under a mutually negotiated "reasonable departures" from the provisions of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Renewal of the MFA for another four years was agreed in principle earlier this year. Whether the EEC will feel able to sign the protocol renewing the MFA will depend on the current negotiations, whose outcome will be examined by foreign ministers at their meeting in Brussels on December 19 and 20.

If the negotiations break down or the results are considered inadequate they could decide to take unilateral measures to curb textile imports from January 1, even though there are fears that this could provoke a general trade war. Contingency plans for unilateral action have already been drawn up.

Business Letters, page 19

'Last chance' warning to Redpath yard

By Ronald Faux

A warning that the oil platform yard of Redpath Dorman Long (North Sea) at Methil in Fife had been given a last chance to prove itself was sounded yesterday during a visit by Dr. Dickson Mabon, Minister of State at the Department of Energy.

Dr. Mabon made it clear that the Government and the oil industry would be watching the performance of the yard closely. The expectation was that DRL would be in business and competing in an international market.

Mr. David Waterstone, chairman of DRL added that no one was complacent about the future. It was their second chance, he said.

The yard at Methil was put on a care and maintenance basis earlier this year through lack of orders. Yesterday work began on RDL's share of the contract to build the basic structure for the Texaco Tertiary platform, which is to be delivered to Union d'Emprise Industrielle (UEI) of Charbonnais for completion by May 1, 1979.

Mr. Waterstone said inadequate market development and the effects of some of the failures at Methil had led to the works being put in mothballs and many of the men declared redundant.

Axle dispute threatens British truck output

A four-month dispute at Eaton Axles, Aycliffe, co. Durham, is preventing British commercial vehicle manufacturers from cashing in on the long-awaited improvement in truck demand which is now under way.

Eaton is part of the American-owned Eaton Corporation and is this country's leading heavy axle manufacturer. So serious is the threat to truck production that some of Eaton's biggest customers are switching to other suppliers, including Rockwell (also American owned) and Guep Ken & Nuffield.

To keep these losses to a minimum Eaton is believed to be importing limited supplies of axles from its own factories in Spain and America.

8 pc of world shipping tonnage still idle

Idle world shipping rose for the sixth successive month to reach 48 million tons, or eight per cent of the world merchant fleet at end-October, the General Council of British Shipping said today.

This figure compares with a high point of 55 million tons in March last year, and a low point since of 32 million tons in April this year. It compares with 342 tankers and 309 dry cargo ships. The United Kingdom figure fell slightly from 2,775,000 to 2,757,000 tons representing 5 per cent of Britain's merchant fleet. A year ago more than 3 million tons of United Kingdom shipping was laid up.

Record exports of building materials and components were forecast by Mr. Ernest Armstrong, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, when he visited British exhibitors at the 11th International Building Exhibition in Paris yesterday. He said that £485m worth of exports had been recorded during the first half of this year, against last year's £301m and 1975's £355m.

Tokyo imports offer

Japan is expected to tell the European Community this week that it is prepared to cut import duty on goods such as whisky, brandy, chocolate and biscuits to help redress the balance of trade, government sources said yesterday. Officials from Japan and the EEC will meet in Brussels on Thursday and Friday to discuss ways of reducing the EEC's deficit.

Leyland strikers back

Production at Leyland's Longbridge plant returned to normal yesterday after 70 vehicle resters had walked out last week demanding reinstatement of a night shift worker sacked for punching a worker he thought was having an affair with his wife. The man was back on unpaid suspension while the management reviewed his case. The dispute cost more than £15m in lost production.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EEC's 'bullying tactics' over textiles show total disregard for Hongkong

From the Bishop of Hongkong and Macao

Sir, I think people in the United Kingdom and in Europe should know of the strong feelings in Hongkong at the apparently bullying tactics of the EEC negotiators on textile quotas. Among many expressions of opinion the Hongkong Christian Industrial Committee has sent an open letter to governments and churches in Europe which makes the following points:

(i) The unilateral decision of EEC representatives to break off negotiations shows a total disregard for this territory where 50 per cent of all industrial workers are in the textile industry.

(ii) The countries of the EEC were able to benefit for centuries from free trade which, as colonial powers, they were able to impose on others. Now, when other countries are ready to share in free trade, the EEC wants to change the rules.

(iii) The EEC intends to cut

quotas held by Hongkong and redistribute them to less developed countries. We reject the EEC's way of doing charity at our expense.

(iv) EEC representatives have so far refused to discuss proposals put forward by Hongkong and rejected concessions offered.

"We call upon the Government of the United Kingdom to assume its special responsibility for the 4.5 million people of Hongkong, and not give in to the unilateral pressure of protectionist interests."

I write on behalf of the large numbers of workers and their families whose livelihood is threatened.

It would be a great pity if the EEC, from which we have had great hopes, should turn out to be another form of old-fashioned colonialism.

Yours sincerely,
GILBERT BAKER,
Bishop of Hongkong and Macao,
Bishop's House,
Hongkong,
November 22

Commercial potential of canals

From Commander E. Mack, R.V.

Sir, I feel that there are many people who would support the Chairman of the National Waterways Transport Association (November 22) in his view that waterways are an invaluable arm of our transport system. It is the most efficient and economical (about one fifth of the fuel per tonne/mile compared with road transport) method.

As a result of certain pressures, our huge investment in motorways and the way we allow heavy lorries to travel without paying their full road provision and maintenance costs (see the Government's Consultation Document on Transport Policy), not to mention environmental costs, we continue to use road transport as much as we can.

Perhaps we should learn from our EEC partners on the Continent, where there is a huge and expanding canal system. It is surely to this that we should be connected so that our goods can be loaded and unloaded as near to our factories as possible and the proper use made of our big canals and estuaries where 300 tonne (and larger) barges can operate. There is much idle capacity for this sized traffic up the Trent to Nottingham, to Leeds and South Yorkshire, up the Severn, the Thames, the Weaver and others.

The Government allow funds to enlarge the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation, 750 tonne barges will be able to reach Mexborough (only 10 miles from Sheffield).

Efficient distribution must result in lower charges for our imports and exports and hence more trade and employment.

Yours faithfully,
E. MACK,
Osleston House,
Dalbury Lees,
Derby DE6 5BN,
November 24

The best links between university and industry

From Dr A. E. B. Presland

Sir, Mr. McAfee's letter today (November 23) overlooks perhaps the single most important factor governing university/industry relations. The behaviour of academic staff can be explained as a perfectly rational response to the universities' reward system.

On appointment (at ever younger ages, as has already been said) the main criterion is proved or potential research capability. Candidates from industry, especially those from the manufacturing areas, are at a considerable disadvantage here.

For the first three years after appointment, the new lecturer is on probation and he quickly learns that security of tenure is dependent upon his ability to demonstrate further his prowess at research. As anyone who has tried both will know, however, it is usually much quicker to achieve publishable results in purely academic work than in industrial research, if only because the latter involves a number of inevitable delays arising from the fact that the research is not totally within the control of the lecturer concerned. There is, therefore, a strong incentive to put off starting industrially related research until after probation has been safely passed. By now, however, attitudes will have hardened, and our ambitious lecturer will have begun to realize that industrially oriented research carries no additional benefit for the next stage either (senior lecturer/researcher) nor even for that final, special reward, the professorial chair.

It should be added that the introduction of boards of studies, suitably stiffened with industrial representatives, provides a still more effective method of bringing engineering teachers into contact with industrial reality, while at the same time demonstrating to industry the constraints of the academic world. Experience in our own board studies and in those of industrial representatives are brought into the decision-making process at the crucial stages of first appointment, probation and promotion to senior lecturer and especially to professor.

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Yours faithfully,
A. E. B. PRESLAND,
Chairman, Board of Studies in Engineering Science and Industrial Management, School of Engineering Science and Industrial Management, University of Liverpool, Ashton Building, PO Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX
November 23

Engineering designers

From the Chief Officer, the Technician Education Council

Sir, Those of your readers who have been following the recent correspondence about engineering design may be interested to know that the Technician Education Council is setting up a working party to study the educational needs of engineering designers at technician level. This committee will include members drawn from the Design Council, the professional institutions in engineering and the engineering employers, as well as TEC itself. Its work may well lead to the development of a TEC higher award in engineering design.

Yours faithfully,
F. G. HANROTT,
Chief Officer,
Technician Education Council,
76 Portland Place,
London W1N 4AA,
November 23

Gatt study sees growth of protectionism

From Alan McGregor
Geneva, Nov 28

No early let-up in current protectionist pressures is foreseen in a Gatt study published today. "The malaise seems to have its roots in a number of structural weaknesses and maladjustments of much earlier origin," it says.

In the 1950s the growth of real wages overtook that of productivity in most industrial countries. Thus trends in the growth and composition of the labour force in industrial countries "make it unavoidable that

employment in some of their industries will undergo absolute decline."

In addition, rigidity of wage differentials in a country increases the vulnerability of declining industries to foreign competition and also hampers dynamic industries in attracting the skilled labour needed for expansion.

The study, by Richard Blackhurst, Nicolas Mariani and Jan Tumlir, develops the argument that tariff protection—provided it is not increased over time—is less damaging to economic

growth than protectionism.

It asserts that coping with the new protectionist calls for government policies directed towards reducing economic uncertainty.

The study concludes that economic stability demands speedy adjustment to constantly changing conditions: "Non-adjustment accumulates maladjustments grow, until a correction is enforced by a more or less severe breakdown, the repercussions of which often spread far beyond the particular industry."

A good belting in the desert helps us grow even more



Above: Part of the manufacturing process of steel-cord reinforced conveyor belting.

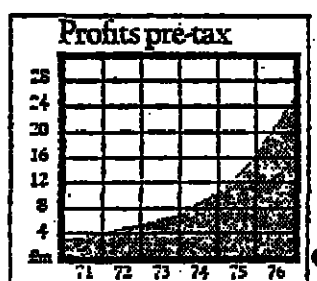
Right: Heavy-duty BTR belting at a copper mine in the Arizona desert.



Heavy-duty BTR belting can stand up successfully to the wear from thousands of tons a day of abrasive ore and the temperature extremes of the desert. Worldwide sales of belting like this have added to BTR's growth during the past eight years.

We supply thousands of other products to the engineering, transportation, energy and mining industries worldwide. Vital components for cars, trains and planes. Hoses of all types. Heavy-duty conveyor belting. Oil platform steelwork assemblies. A wide variety of rubber, plastic and engineering components.

We're confident we've got the right mix to carry on growing: sales to vital industries and worldwide manufacture and distribution. Above all an operating philosophy that actively encourages growth.



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DANA IN PERSPECTIVE OVER TEN YEARS

What we do...



TRUCK COMPONENTS



SERVICE PARTS DISTRIBUTION



INDUSTRIAL AND OFF-HIGHWAY COMPONENTS



PASSENGER CAR COMPONENTS

SALES OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

1967 1977

IN MILLIONS IN MILLIONS

\$272 \$967...

... from New products and increased marketing services

\$126 \$385...

... from Expanded coverage with more regional warehouses and more products

\$38 \$253...

... a Growth area of the Company—more products and new marketing capabilities

\$116 \$189...

... from Serving the areas which meet our financial standards

\$552 \$1,794

TOTAL SALES MORE THAN TRIPLED

IN THE TEN YEAR PERIOD

Financial Performance

Year ended August 31st 1977 1976 percentage change

Our net income after tax amounted to \$107,800,000 \$89,200,000 +21%

We made on each dollar of sales 6c 6c

Received from customers for products and services \$1,790,000,000 \$1,440,000,000 +24%

How dividends and reinvestment have been good for shareholders.

1967 1977

Dow-Jones Industrial stock price average at August 31st ... 901.29 861.49

Dana stock price August 31st ... \$11.46 \$23.00

Dana dividend - Annualized - year-end rate ... 4.53 \$1.12

Past Ten Years Dow Average Down 5%

Dana was up over 100% in the Ten years

and so was its dividend!



DANA CORPORATION

The largest independent producer of proprietary motor vehicle components in North America for the original equipment and service parts markets.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Implications of the Hattersley review

Mr Hattersley's review of competition policy which is to be conducted by senior civil servants and economists with a brief to produce a first report by the spring could herald a far more actively interventionist agency than exists at the moment. A combination of the present Prices and Monopolies and Mergers Commissions, which is envisaged, possibly including the Office of Fair Trading would create a body with wide powers to influence the structure and performance of industry and commerce.

The implications for the financial community are profound. The review has its background both in the recent growth of conglomerate mergers—bids by Lloyds, Trafalgar House and S. Pearson spring to mind. Moreover, academic research which would suggest that even the promoters of mergers were dissatisfied with the results and up to 50 per cent of merged companies would have been more profitable on their own.

Unless there have been clear monopoly implications, most mergers have until now been decided in the market place. The review group will consider whether this should change. A central theme for discussion will be whether the current criteria for allowing a merger through, that it does not damage the national interest, should be replaced by the tougher sanction that it should be of benefit. If that were to happen, the role of the shareholder would be yet further diminished.

The strength of the share price of a company, theoretically at least, is the ultimate check to foolish bids and unpopular mergers. Practically, the test for accepting an offer is always whether income (and to a lesser extent, capital growth) would be greater by agreeing to the bid than by staying with the victim. Judgment is open to criticism, but a change in the system threatens one of the few real remaining powers of shareholders.

It may well be, however, that the concentration of ownership of British industry, which is greater than our competitors, has inhibited growth.

But the conditions have opened the way for a major interventionist agency which is bound to act closely with the National Enterprise Board and could have immense powers to affect the profitability of companies and could even order conglomerates to disinvest. Making an investment would become much more hazardous.

The recent reference of the Smith/Bisgood merger to the Monopolies Commission shows from another angle that there is less than satisfaction within official quarters that the financial community is the best judge even of its own affairs. The temptation for a new agency to involve itself more in the City would be strong.

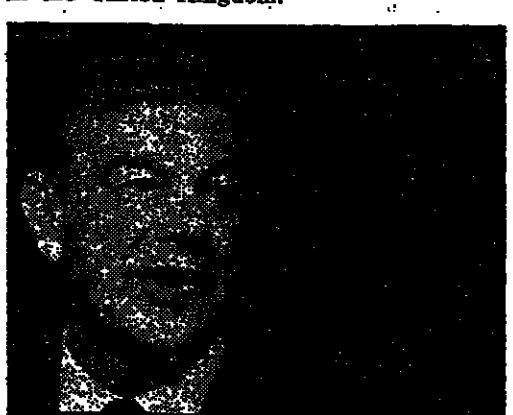
Any move that threatens the markets' role must be worrying to the City. As the Tate

& Lyle/Manbré merger last year showed that merger and monopoly policy could be subservient to political expediency, the worries over the new review will be that much greater.

Fisons Funding in the Euromarket

Fisons yesterday became the first British industrial group to announce that it is to raise funds in the Eurosterling market. It is not going to be the last: the attractions of tapping this new source of funds are considerable.

First, of course, there is the worthwhile saving in debt servicing thanks to the lower cost of external sterling. Second, the Euro-market presents the borrower with lenders happy to commit funds on a medium term basis—a facility that may well be far more attractive to many companies than the traditional 20 year plus loan stock market in the United Kingdom.



Sir George Burton, chairman of Fisons.

Thirdly, the Euromarket tends to be far less demanding of a company in terms of covenants, the "negative pledge" (protecting the lender vis-à-vis other creditors) often being the only real demand on a company of reasonable status.

Whether or not any British companies are contemplating using the market to finance large-scale overseas investment remains to be seen. It may well be too early to contemplate issues bigger than the proposed £25m issue by the European Investment Bank (also announced yesterday), though there was some speculation in the market yesterday that the size of this issue could be increased if the demand was there.

Certainly, the latest rise in domestic interest rates looks to have done nothing to upset the market. Eurosterling rates easing slightly yesterday and the ECSC issue pending.

RTZ's uranium maze

Judgment on an appeal by seven directors and senior executives of Rio Tinto-Zinc against being forced to give evidence before an American court will be handed down by the Law Lords on Thursday.

The judgment will be one facet of a complex series of litigation and investigation into the marketing of uranium earlier in the decade. To certain extent it turns on the most spectacular shorting operation in the history of commodities—Westinghouse Electric Corporation went short 65 million pounds of uranium it had contracted to supply at an average price of \$9-\$10 a pound.

The Law Lords ruling will initially have an impact in a multi-party action which is being heard in Virginia and in which Westinghouse, the world's largest manufacturer of nuclear reactors is being sued by several public utility (power) companies over failure to meet uranium delivery contracts.

However, the ramifications have much wider implications. If RTZ executives, including the chairman Sir Mark Turner, are forced to testify on the existence and activities of a uranium producers' cartel, of which RTZ is alleged to have been a member, the evidence taken in the Virginia Court hearing could be used against RTZ and six subsidiary companies which are being sued by Westinghouse in another action in Illinois. Potential damages being sought by

Westinghouse in this action could be as high as \$6,000m.

But there is also a United States Grand Jury investigating the uranium industry for allegedly breaching United States anti-trust legislation, while recently the Tennessee Valley Authority, which is one of the utilities now suing Westinghouse, has filed its own action against 13 uranium producers, including RTZ.

Whatever the decision of the Law Lords, the Westinghouse saga still has far to run. RTZ faces the Illinois action (and now the TVA action as well) although it denies the jurisdiction of the Court except in relation to two subsidiaries and totally denies liability. The last annual report stated that it was not considered any loss would result from the proceedings and that no provisions had been made in the accounts.

If the Law Lords rule against the RTZ Government, which has come under pressure from the Australian, Canadian and French governments, may try to forbid RTZ personnel from giving evidence to a United States court. The Australians and Canadians have passed laws preventing their uranium producing companies from handing over any information and in the House of Lords hearing the Attorney General, Mr Sam Silkin, has accused the United States of a "serious excess of jurisdiction" in attempting to obtain evidence from foreign nationals.

Russian cars head for a mini revolution

If Russia does not claim to have invented the motor car, it is now making up for lost time. Production this year will be approaching 1.4 million units, or four times as many as in 1970, and further expansion, though admittedly not at the same rate, is envisaged in the next Five-Year Plan which begins in 1981.

Nearly half the output comes from the giant Togliatti plant on the Volga river which makes the Lada, a Russian version of the Fiat 124. It is probably the

Following yesterday's article which examined the problems confronting American car makers, we look today at the development of the industry in Russia

biggest integrated car production complex in the world, making practically everything apart from tyres, glass, some electrical and a few mechanical components.

Togliatti lies 600 miles east of Moscow and the arrival of the car industry has created a new city of 200,000 people on barren swamp land, as flat as far as the eye can see. The workers, recruited from all over the Soviet Union, earn on average 170 roubles (£127) a month, not a princely sum

by western standards—but more than they could have dreamed of only a few years ago.

Many live in flats provided by the company in 12-storey tower blocks a short bus ride from the factory. The single workers sleep two to a tiny room, share a cooker, and fridge with two colleagues, but pay only seven roubles (£5.50) a month in rent. Their life is very largely, their work.

The factory itself looks superficially like any other—after all, the basic means of putting a car together has not changed since Henry Ford—except that it is essentially clean (a Russian trait) and impresses by sheer size. The main assembly line, with three tracks and a fourth shortly to be added, is a mile-long and cars are laid out to take you round it.

The age of mass motoring has come late in Russia, and even now there are barely five million cars on the roads—less than 10 million in Britain and more than 100 million in the United States.

Khrushchev called the car a "four-wheeled armchair on wheels" and gave it little encouragement and the Moskvich factory, set up in 1930, took 37 years to make its first million vehicles.

But two years after Khrushchev's fall from power in 1964, an agreement was struck with Fiat to build the 124 model under licence and the Italians also provided the technical know-how for the establishment of the factory. A



The Lada engine assembly line at the Togliatti plant.

Not only is the car of Western design—though the Russians have provided their own overhead camshaft engine and given it thicker metal and a higher ground clearance—but much of the machinery that builds it has come from Britain, West Germany, France, Italy and the United States. It is to help pay for this equipment that the Lada is sold in the West—at obviously unrealistic prices.

But having exploited Fiat's expertise, the Russians seem determined from now on to go their own way. The first indication of this is the Niva, a small four-wheel drive hatchback which has recently gone into production at Togliatti.

Designed particularly for off-road motoring, and only a fifth of the national road network is paved, it does use some Lada components but is basically a Russian creation.

Looking further ahead, the next five-year plan embraces production of a front-wheel drive "supermini" on the lines of the Ford Fiesta and Fiat 127. With a railgate and one litre engine, it promises to be the most advanced car ever built in the Soviet Union. A design team is busy at work so that the car can be launched—probably at Togliatti—early in the 1980s.

Meanwhile it is worth pointing out that the Lada is, in

effect, an 11-year-old model and, even so, much more sophisticated than the other Soviet volume cars, the Moskvich and the Zaporozhets. The Moskvich, made on the outskirts of the Russian capital, enjoyed a brief boom in Britain up to a couple of years ago but was withdrawn by the importer, Sarda Motors, as not being up to standard.

But Sarda has decided to keep the concession open and it seems that a more modern Moskvich may be on the horizon. The agent for the Niva, the Moskvich plant is any guide, the future model could look rather like the Saab 99—

The future of the Zaporozhets, named after the town in the Ukraine where it is built, is uncertain. This is a car that has never been sold in Britain though a few are exported to Italy, Greece and Austria. The Soviet car industry expects to export 350,000 cars this year, about a quarter of the total. (Incidentally, Russia must be one of the few countries in the world that does not import cars.) The Eastern block countries are the main customers but the Lada enjoys steady sales in Britain—nearly 13,000 this year in Finland, West Germany, Belgium and Holland.

Pricing policy is interesting, to say the least. On the Russian market the Lada costs between 5,500 and 7,500 roubles (£4,000 to £5,600), or the equivalent of 2½ to 3½ years' earnings of the

average Togliatti worker. No wonder that only 4,000 of the 100,000 workforce own a car, and there is no staff discount or credit scheme. Also, if a Russian wants a new car he has to wait 18 months to two years for it.

But if the car is sold for western currency, entirely different rules apply. A British correspondent based in Moscow has just bought a new Lada: he got it more or less immediately and paid only a quarter of the "Russian" price. In Britain, the agent for the example of Togliatti shows that events move quickly when officialdom decrees, and the prospect of western markets being flooded by Soviet-produced superminis at knock-down prices cannot be taken lightly.

Despite the tremendous expansion of the last few years, it is as well to get the Russian car industry in perspective. It is not another Japan, nor is it likely to be for some years. For one thing, Russia does not have the roads and the service back-up to sustain a huge car population. But the example of Togliatti shows that events move quickly when officialdom decrees, and the prospect of western markets being flooded by Soviet-produced superminis at knock-down prices cannot be taken lightly.

Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

Agents caught in the web of an EEC directive

Clive Schmittthoff

remunerated by commission, is, economically speaking, comparable with the employee, who normally is remunerated by way of salary.

If the commission achieves some degree of harmonization on these key issues, much will have been accomplished. Above all, the commission should decide from attempting to prescribe a model contract—the agency situation in the various countries is too different for that.

The three topics which a new directive on agency should cover require further explanation:

1. The definition of "commercial agent" should be restricted to a self-employed intermediary who has continuing authority to negotiate and/or conclude contracts for the sale of manufactured goods, in the name and for the account of the principal. That definition should be subject to two qualifications: first, member states should be at liberty also to impose a financial limit, namely to provide that the protection of the directive shall apply only to agents whose annual turnover does not exceed a certain amount, say, £50,000.

Secondly, member states should be entitled to extend the protection of the directive to commercial agents other than those engaged in the sale of manufactured goods. That would enable France to extend the protection of the directive to VEG (voyageurs, représentants, placiers) who are *représentants bénéficiaires du statut*

legal as they are protected by the *code de travail*; and it would enable Germany to extend the protection to *Handelsvertreter*, as defined in the German Law of 1953.

Such an arrangement would take account of the different economic situation in the member states. In any event, part-time agents, such as housewives selling for a mail order house, should be excluded from the protection of the directive.

2. On principle, agents failing under the directive should be in the insolvency of the principal be treated as if they were employees. That, incidentally, is provided by article 22 of the present draft directive. It is a sound principle, but it is not easy to carry out in practice.

In the United Kingdom, under the Employment Protection Act 1975, the preferential claim of employees is for a sum not exceeding £800 and accrued during four months before the receiving order. The £800 limit appears to be appropriate for agents of the commission, but it may be questionable whether the time limit of four months is appropriate.

Moreover, in certain circumstances the employee can recover his claim from a government department which then takes the place of the employer, but a claim of an agent against the government department for arrears of commission would be ruled out completely.

Difficulties arise also with respect to the employee's claim for holiday remuneration, time off and so on: all these are preferential claims of the

employee to which the agent will never be entitled.

It follows that it is impossible to equate the claim of the agent for preferential treatment of arrears of commission with the employee's claim. The new draft directive should allow the member states considerable discretion to adapt the principle to the provisions of their own national law.

3. The harmonization of the law relating to goodwill indemnity after termination of the contract of agency is the most difficult but also the most important problem. Here, it would be desirable to provide two rules.

First, there should be no statutory claim for goodwill indemnity if the contract was for a definite time, unless it was continued after its expiration. Secondly, where the contract is for an indefinite time or is a continuing contract, a statutory claim for goodwill indemnity should arise, provided that the agent has been active for the principal for a certain time, for example, for two years.

The amount of the statutory claim should be fixed by the ordinary courts. If the parties cannot agree, and the courts, when fixing the amount, should take into consideration the length of service of the agent, the value of the goodwill which the principal has acquired as the result of the agent's activities, the agent's present earnings from the agency and other relevant circumstances.

The author is Visiting Professor of International Business Law at the City University and the University of Kent at Canterbury.

Business Diary: Written in water? • Animal crackers

Can corruption be cured by self-censoring ordinances and international agreements or will the corrupt simply ignore these and go about their seamy business as before?

This question will be at the heart of the debate being held today in Paris by the governing council of the 34-nation International Chamber of Commerce—the business version of the United Nations.

The council will have before it the second draft of a report prepared by an international commission of eminent men which proposes tougher government measures to fight bribery, a voluntary code of conduct for business which would ban bribes and kickbacks, and the setting up of an international panel to police the code.

This second draft is a much watered down version of the original which was rewritten after criticism from the French, the West Germans and the Belgians.

Several commission members—particularly its chairman Lord Shawcross, a former British attorney general, Jean Rey, the Belgian who presided over the European Economic Community from 1967 to 1970, and Sheikh Yamani, Saudi Arabia's petroleum minister—have been consistently strong advocates of tough measures.

So have Zeki Mustafa, former attorney general of the Sudan who was reported to be extremely angry at the way in which the power of the policing panel were severely curtailed in the second draft, and the Iranian banker Ghasem Kheradjo.

mites of the ICC has been rallying the opposition. One important figure thought to be less than wholly enthusiastic is commission member 76-year-old Jacques Georges, the French president of the Campagne Financière de Suez et de l'Union Parisienne—the old Uez Canal Company.

The French view seems to be that you cannot cure corruption with places of paper and that international policing panel may be open to abuse, with companies denouncing one another to it for reasons of malice.

How will today's vote go? The ICC council may well adopt the code but will remit the question of the policing panel for further consideration, a compromise that will not please Shawcross, Yamani, Mustafa, and Kheradjo.

The City is used to coping with bulls and bears, but elephants and donkeys are something else.

They and many assorted animals and birds arrive at Heathrow station, run by the City Corporation for greater London and, in practice, for the rest of the country.

The new station, opened in February, has all the facilities needed to deal with a market that is increasingly important, not least since the menace of rabies threatens British shores.

In its first six months of operation, however, the station has lost £117,000, not at all what the money-conscious corporation had in mind.

The Port and City of London Health Committee, chaired by Brigadier John Packard, have



Hollowood

"Learning that the Swedes and Germans pay more tax than we do has been a terrible blow to my righteous indignation."

even considered closing the station but decided the station's national importance and the corporation's own statutory duties came first.

The brigadier wants to maintain the station because of his knowledge of the horrors of rabies gained during military service in India.

He is trying to get the government to contribute towards running costs and meanwhile has now asked the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for permission to reduce the charge for birds and beasts staying at their "hotel".

At present the minimum charge for an elephant is £50 for 24 hours. It is proposed to introduce a six-hour stay for £15, which could produce more custom, and the same criterion will apply to others. A donkey, for instance, could stay for £5, instead of £24 as before, while a medium-sized dog or a large

cat would cost £2.40 instead of £5.60.

Today in London, lighting engineers will be discussing, among other things, how to measure laser power. Seventy years or so ago, the problem concerned the measurement of light emitted by gas mantles.

Leading light at the conference, entitled The International Lighting Scene, is the National Illumination Committee, which arranged to review research at the half-way point between the forums held every four years by the Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage (CIE).

The CIE came into being in 1913, was extinguished briefly during the 1914-18 War and held its first full session in 1924. Here, according to its constitution, "the American, for Stevens, occurred probably its most important single achievement—the establishment of a curve of spectral luminous

efficiency. "In effect this defines an average human eye and is the international basis for the measurement of light, without which there would be chaos and confusion."

Now, the priority is to find some adequate way to describe the quality of light as opposed to its mere quantity. Since the 1920s, the science of lighting has become increasingly important, as people have realized the need to make more use of less light—by improving its direction, for instance.

The conference, which will be as non-technical as possible will hear reports on a variety of lighting matters, including applications for stage and studio, for roads, down mines, up in the air and for sports.

Regarding the latter, lighting engineers are intrigued by the suggestion of Kerry Packer, the Australian sports impresario, that he might televise floodlit cricket.

As the experts point out the technical problems are great—what with getting the light right for the television cameras while ensuring that the batsman can see the ball.

They are now wondering if he knows something they don't.

Following the American withdrawal from the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Chinese have also decided to pull out from this United Nations agency, albeit "temporarily". This defection is not likely to worry the ILO as much as that of the Americans, for since joining in 1971 the Chinese have not paid any subscriptions and owe the ILO \$9.8m (about £5.4m).

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

Compañía Anónima Nacional
Teléfonos de Venezuela

8 1/2% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1987

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated 15 December 1973 providing for the above Debentures, \$350,000 principal amount of said Debentures bearing the following serial numbers have been selected for redemption on December 15, 1977, through operation of the Sinking Fund, at the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest thereon to said date:

DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH									
1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009
1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019
1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027	1028	1029
1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039
1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049
1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059
1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069
1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079
1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087	1088	1089
1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099
1100	1101	1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107	1108	1109
1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115	1116	1117	1118	1119
1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129
1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1138	1139
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St. Moritz
LA STAMPA
DIE ZEITUNG

Europa

Why London dominates the art markets

When one thinks of the European art market, one's first thought is of London, such is London's dominance in the world of art sales. This preeminence is above all due to the London auctioneers Sotheby's and Christie's.

These two alone had a turnover of some DM750m (£187.5m) in 1976-77, more than total sales in auctions, art fairs and galleries in West Germany.

We should not, however, forget that these figures for Sotheby's and Christie's also include substantial sums earned by both abroad, particularly Sotheby's. From Sotheby's £122m we have to subtract £44.3m turnover in the United States. More than one fifth of the remaining £77.7m came from sales in Europe.

Major jewelry sales, for instance, are held in Geneva, because of the liberal import-export rules and for tax reasons. On November 10 Christie's disposed of over 24m Swiss francs worth (£6m) of jewelry at four sales in Geneva.

Even after these deductions, London

is still Europe's premier art market. This was not always the case. It was only after the Second World War that London topped Paris from first place. Only two years ago Paris was hoping to regain the leading position. The reason was the introduction of a 10 per cent buyer's commission at Sotheby's and Christie's in 1975. Until then only the seller had had to pay a 10 per cent fee.

The low costs were an important factor in London's leading role in the European art market, but after only half the season Sotheby's and Christie's also included substantial sums earned by both abroad, particularly Sotheby's. From Sotheby's £122m we have to subtract £44.3m turnover in the United States. More than one fifth of the remaining £77.7m came from sales in Europe.

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Even after these deductions, London

an important contributory factor.) Paris is the main centre for seventeenth and eighteenth-century furniture.

West Germany's art market is decentralized, in contrast with England and France, where the art markets are localized in the capitals, London and Paris (as they were centred on Berlin in the days of the Third Reich). There is, however, a degree of concentration in Munich, but almost every major West German city has a large auctioneer, and there are some 20 of international reputation in the whole country.

While London and Paris handle all forms of art works, most West German firms are highly specialized, and these can achieve prices in their special fields that are quite comparable to those reached by the competition in London and Paris.

The Cologne firm, Lempertz, for example, specializes in art of the Middle Ages, and the highest price for a Madonna of this period (DM 330,000) was recorded in their salerooms. Hauswedell and Nolte in Hamburg is famous for old books and graphic works; Neu-

meister in Munich is known for nineteenth-century paintings, and Stargardt has a reputation for autographs that extends beyond West Germany. Ruel in Munich specializes in furniture, and Nagel in Stuttgart has built up a name for carpets.

Turnover on the West German art market is of the order of DM 500m a year, which puts it in third place in Europe, behind France and the United Kingdom. Estimates of turnover in the art world are likely to be lower than the true figures because not all transactions are shown on the books.

It is for this reason particularly difficult to assess the Italian art market with any degree of confidence, although it is concentrated in the two centres Milan and Florence. It has suffered visibly from the 35 per cent VAT, and in order to evade this burden transactions must go through the "grey" market or go abroad, with the result that the official home market is declining steadily.

Armin Loewe



Lloyds Bank Interest Rates

Lloyds Bank Limited has increased its Base Rate from 6% to 7% with effect from Tuesday 29th November 1977.

The rate of interest on 7-day notice Deposit accounts and Savings Bank accounts is increased from 3% to 3 1/2% p.a.

The change in Base Rate and Deposit account interest will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branches of

Lloyds Bank International Limited.

The National Bank of New Zealand Limited and by Lewis's Bank Limited



Mr Peter Williams, managing director of Amdahl (UK), with Mr Bill Brant, BOC Datasolve's London Central Datacentre manager (seated), after the installation at Sunbury.

Datasolve installs first Amdahl in Britain

BOC Datasolve has installed the first Amdahl computer to be delivered to the United Kingdom at its Sunbury data centre. Amdahl Corporation, California-based, has concentrated on high-performance large computer systems which use IBM software.

The Sunbury system, a V/5 model, is the first Amdahl to be delivered in Europe, and is the 81st such installation worldwide. It will be used for BOC Datasolve bureau customers and as a test centre for the V/5 in Europe.

Mr Peter V. Williams, a for-

Computer news

mer IBM executive, has been appointed managing director of Amdahl (UK), Hounslow, Middlesex, and general manager of the company's northern European operations. In his 17 years with IBM United Kingdom, Mr Williams held positions which included large systems marketing manager, director of industry systems, and product management manager responsible for the introduction of new products.

Sanders/IBM system

First outcome of the product development agreement signed between IBM and Sanders Associates last January is a new interactive computer graphics system.

Known as the IBM 3250 graphics display system, it will enable graphs, plots, charts and drawings to be displayed and modified on a screen for design, testing and analysis work.

Developed by Sanders, the system will also be manufactured by the Nashua, New Hampshire company, under the direction of IBM United Kingdom laboratories at Hursley, Hampshire, and the IBM plant at Raleigh, North Carolina. The Hursley laboratories are responsible for the architecture of the system design; engineering specifications; industrial design and product assurance.

Changing emphasis

Increasing use of intelligent terminals in distributed-processing work has been reflected in an all-in service which has been introduced by Baric Computing Services, jointly owned by International Computers and Barclays Bank.

Known as Datacare, the new service provides remote batch processing on an on-line basis. Baric will provide the software and the intelligent terminals which will link the customers with the Baric computers.

Recommended by Baric is the ICL (ex-Singer) 1500 range of terminals. As well as the hardware and software, finance can be provided through Barclays. Peter Holman, Baric managing director, said: "I will forecast that in a very few years' time intelligent terminals will become almost as commonplace equipment in business systems as the typewriter."

New guides

Two recently published books giving outlines of different aspects of contemporary computing are intended for small-company management and development engineers respectively. The first is *Computerization for the small business* by Edward Cluff and Alan Simpson (published by Input Two-Nine in conjunction with the Data Processing Management Association at £9.95).

This is a layman's guide for directors and senior line managers which sets out to guide the reader through the many problems involved in choosing, running and getting the best out of his computer system.

In *Microprocessors—their development and application* (Electrical Research Association, £39), the ERA brings up to date its detailed technical survey of microprocessor devices, a field which is advancing perhaps more rapidly than any other.

Current technology and trends are described (including details of 150 devices from 40 manufacturers) in relation to the needs of new users and experienced engineers.

Kenneth Owen

FINANCIAL NEWS

Despite four years of recession Thyssen plans a dividend

From Peter Norman, Bonn, Nov 28
Thyssen, the West German steel and engineering group, announced that it should be able to pay a dividend of DM5.50 per DM50 nominal share for the financial year in September 30. Thyssen paid DM17 for 1975-76.

At a time when Germany's steel industry is entering its fourth year of recession, the fact that Thyssen is planning to pay a dividend testifies to its decision some years ago to diversify away from its narrow steel producing base.

The group disclosed that its crude steel production fell by 8.5 per cent to 11.7m tonnes in the past business year, and that the more produced steel sector finished 1976-77 with much heavier losses than in 1975-76.

On the other hand, Thyssen's special steel production, its investment goods and manufacturing division and its trading and service sectors made profits.

The group reported that its supervisory board has approved new investments totalling DM330m for this year, most of which will go towards rationalising and modernising production facilities in West Germany.

Although the group said the purpose of its long term investment plan was to secure jobs, it managed to trim its workforce by 3.7 per cent to 134,371 in the course of the 1976-77 business year.

Hoechst follows BASF

Hoechst, the Frankfurt based chemical group, saw that its world wide pre-tax profits declined by 15.8 per cent to DM825m in the first nine months of this year. Sales advanced slightly to DM17,380m from 17,180m. Peter Norman writes.

Parent company earnings before tax also fell to DM515m from DM636m on a reduced turnover of 7,150m compared with 7,240m.

Hoechst is the third of the big six German chemical companies to publish figures for the first three quarters of this year. It experienced a sharper earnings fall than Bayer, but its results are roughly in line with those published by BASF.

Hoechst said that the profit drop reflected sluggish turnover trends, falling selling prices, growing pressure from imports on the home market and difficulties in export markets. It said the steady rise of the Deutsche Mark on foreign exchange markets.

Hoechst reported that at present capacity utilisation had fallen to around 69 per cent

International

from 80 per cent in the spring and that 3,500 workers were on short time.

Hudson's Bay slips

Toronto-Hudson's Bay announces net earnings for the nine months ended October 31 of \$8.5m or 60 cents per share, compared with \$8.6m or 62 cents per share.

Sales and revenue increased 3.6 per cent to \$1,005,186,000 from \$951,817,000 for the same period in 1976.

Merchandising and natural resources earnings in the third quarter were improved over the comparable period last year, reflecting a continuation of the trend in the first six months. Earnings from real estate, however, continued to reflect shortfalls from the previous year.

Gen Immoiliare plan

Rome—Generale Immoiliare is seeking approval from creditor banks for a new plan to salvage the group, involving financial interests linked with Indamenti.

Creditor banks are expected to meet later this week to discuss the proposals, under which the group will ask for continued credit and funds to finance bids for contracts abroad, it was reported.

The new agreement was reached late last week between Immoiliare's managing director, Senator Carlo Belli, and Rome construction and finance businessmen, Senator Carlo Aloisi, who is backed by Pirelli, a spokesman said.

Under the plan, creditor banks will be asked to accept real estate assets to cover part of Immoiliare's existing debt, and to convert into shares a recent Lire 35.7 billion convertible bond issue, subscribed to by banks.

Braun sales up 5 pc

Kronberg—Sales of Braun Group, part of Gillette of the United States, rose 5 per cent in the year ended September 30 to a record high of DM812m, the group said.

It gave no earnings figures but said that they are expected to show a rise. Last March, Braun reported a 13.4 per cent increase in net profits to

DM9,14m for the 1975-76 year. Braun said, thought that sales were strongly influenced by currency swings and foreign price inflation. Parent company sales rose 7 per cent to DM157.4m. The share of exports in total sales rose to 63 per cent in the year from 60 per cent the year before.

The electrical household and consumer appliance manufacturer said that while many European markets continued weak, other foreign markets showed good growth. Sales of newer electrical products were especially successful.—A.P. Dow Jones

German bank payouts

Frankfurt—Leading West German banks have and relatively good 1977 earnings, and in coming months should remain among the leading shares subject to stock market interest, analysts at Deutsche Girozentrale-Deutsche Kommunalbank (DGZ) said.

In their latest report they forecast that Deutsche Bank will have the best earnings result, but like Dresdner Bank will pay a DM19 dividend carrying a DM5.06 tax credit. Commerzbank's earnings would fall to DM18.50 from DM19 with the tax credit at DM4.78.

Estel sales drop

Sales of Estel NV Hoesch-Hoogovens, the Dutch-Ger joint steel concern, fell by 4.3 per cent in the third quarter to FL2,300m (about £511m), putting a loss of 718,000 in the first nine months. Sales rose slightly to FL6,900m from FL6,800m in the similar period a year ago. Losses more than doubled in the first three quarters, however, to FL26m, from FL19m in the same 1976 period. Pig iron production was 1.89 million tons in the third quarter, up from 1.64 million tons in the second quarter.

Crude steel production was 2.5 million tons compared with 2.5 million tons. Rolled steel also rose to 2.24 million tons (consolidated) from 2.12 million tons.

Flick streamlines

The central holding company of the Flick Group of West Germany, a diversified concern with activities in chemicals, paper and machinery, is being transformed into a partnership with shares, the company announces. Ownership and management, however, will remain unchanged. A spokesman said the new legal form creates the possibility of eventually expanding the group's capital base by the issue of shares.

Briefly

Chamberlain Phipps goes 48 pc ahead

The improvement continues at Chamberlain Phipps, with pre-tax profits rising from £835,000 to £1.2m for the six months to September 30.

Turnover of the group, which makes components and materials for footwear, clothing and automotive industries, rose by 16.2 per cent to £24.3m. Margins in turn increased from 5 per cent to 6.1 per cent. Earnings a share came out at 3.07p compared with 1.70p. It pays an interim dividend of 1.56p gross against 0.67p.

All divisions improved their profits, with the moulding and general industries showing a better performance than this time last year when mouldings underwent reorganization. Meanwhile Mr W. R. F. Chamberlain, chairman, is still optimistic for the year overall. In June the group announced that pre-tax profits for the full year to March 31 had risen from £693,000 to a record £2.1m.

STANDARD FIREWORKS

Standard Fireworks is making agreed bid for Barton Properties. Pre-tax profit for the year ended 30 September was £121,000.

LOAN FOR TUNISIA

A consortium of international banks led by Bank of America International and Chase Manhattan is to provide a \$125m seven year Euroloan to the Republic of Tunisia.

TESCO STORES

Net future footage of selling space has increased since 1972 though policy is to open large stores in place of smaller ones.

MYSTON GROUP

Company has paid £325,000 for premises, plant and equipment of Penard. Plant will be operated by new subsidiary Myston Radiators (Wales) and will produce radiators.

MID KENT WATER

Underwriting completed for an offer for sale of £50.7 per cent redeemable preference stock 1982. Full details will be available tomorrow.

BAINBRIDGE ENG

Chairman says that although the year will not be as successful as 1976, group remains strong financially and confident of the future.

GEO WHITEHOUSE

Chairman says prospects are encouraging. Proposed that every five 10p shares be consolidated into one ordinary of 50p.

EXCHANGE TELEGRAPH

Extra reports 29 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to record £1.8m for half-year to September 30. Turnover 22 per cent up to £10.8m. Profits for second half expected to be higher than the similar half last year.

MAGNET SOUTHERNS

Group has acquired Howland & Deane, an old-established timber merchants business based at Helmsdon in Holland.

Approaches for G Dew and Reed & Smith

The recent flurry of bid approaches continues with both Reed & Smith Holdings and G. Dew signalling that talks are on which could lead to an offer. Meanwhile Wintour Holdings' board says that it has not had time to consider in detail the proposed offer announced on November 23 from A. A. Clark, but advises shareholders to take no action until they hear from the board.

Reed & Smith's shares were suspended at 35p on news of the approach and the group's valuation is thus about £3m. This is the paper and packaging group in which the National Enterprise Board took a near 30 per cent stake this time last year. It also takes in the Harrison Cowley Advertising agency, and reported a near doubled pre-tax profit of £449,000 for the six months to June 30.

At the G. Dew civil engineering group, the board emphasises that discussions are at an early stage and that other approaches in the past have proved abortive. It says that these discussions are now suspended rise 27p to 122p on the news.

Ship sale proceeds boost Stag's

In spite of reduced turnover, Stag's ship sale proceeds boosted its profit for the year ended 30 September to £121,000.

Net future profits include a £441,000 surplus on the sale of Stag's ship, Cloxonia and investment income of £124,000, compared with £169,000 last time. The year's profits are also after charging pre-delivery interest on loan capital of £105,000, against last year, as well as depreciation. The total gross payment is going up from £15.59p to 17.27p. As good as these profits are, they still have a long way to go to reach the record £1.01m achieved in 1973-74.

Margins warning by Edward Jones

Although reporting pre-tax profits for the first half of this year up from £30,500 to £50,500, the board of Edward Jones (Courtauld) warns that difficult conditions still persist and that no substantial improvement can be expected for some time.

Based on orders already in hand, the year's turnover should be up on last time, although margins are likely to be affected by present conditions.

Lennon Bros shares jump on takeover

Shares in Rugby-based Lennon Bros soared yesterday on the news that it is being taken over in an agreed offer.

The private company of Palmer and Harvey has agreed to make an offer worth £1.2m for Lennon. Terms: £4.57 for each ordinary and 65p for each preference

share. Shares in Lennon jumped by £3.83p to £4.60 on the news. But there is only a small market in the shares. Dealers say they were last dealt in May, 1976, at a price of 60p. The offers will be satisfied by loan stock of £1m, which will be listed on the stock exchange. There will be a cash alternative. The board of Lennon and members of their families have agreed to accept for 44 per cent or the ordinary.

Ldn & Midland Ind sees bumper year

A substantial improvement over the £1.5m pre-tax record profit achieved by London & Midland Industrials for the year ended 1977 is predicted for this year by the board. The first six months has shown a 31 per cent rise to £851,000 on sales 27 per cent higher at £m, so margins improved from 9.15 per cent to 9.4 per cent.

The group's financial position has been strengthened by reductions of £277,000 for the half year, and also by the decision to release £552,000 to reserves from provisions for stock relief at March 31 which will not be payable.

Clarke Chapman buys group next door

Clarke Chapman has agreed to buy from Thomas W. Ward the business of Thomas, Smith & Sons (Rodley) which makes cranes and draglines. The group's works are next to the Clyde. Both Rodley Crane works of Clarke Chapman, which is one of the world's biggest crane makers. The purchase is in keeping with the Clarke Chapman policy of expanding its range and product base and will fall within the pattern of the enlarged Northern Engineering recently formed by the merger of Clarke Chapman and Reynolds Parsons.

UB paying £1.5m for BOC pizza group

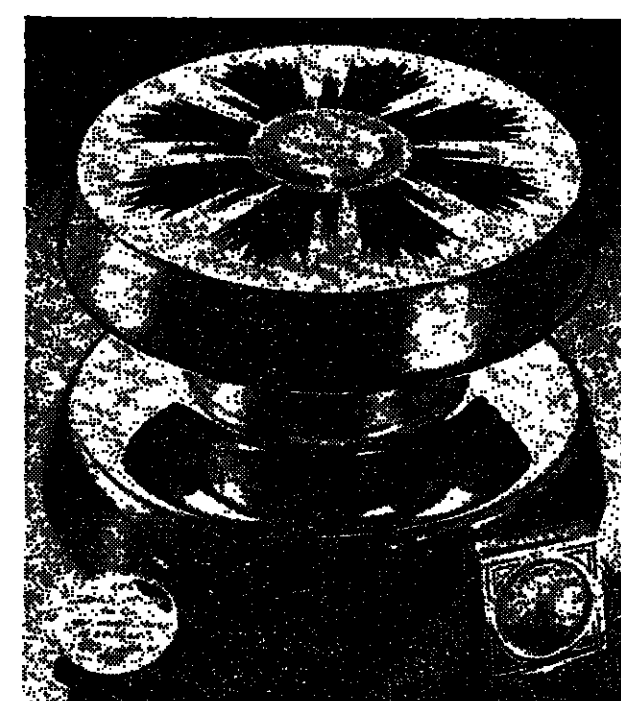
Britain's biggest pizza company, King Harry Foods, which turns out more than 18m pizzas a year, is being sold by BOC International, which started the company in the late 1960s for £1.5m. The buyer is United Biscuits, the McVitie's biscuits and KP naps group which recently acquired the Wimpey franchise from J. Lyons.

King Harry accounts for around 60 per cent of the United Kingdom frozen pizza market, where sales are made both under the "King Harry" brand name and also on a private label basis. Big customers include Marks and Spencer, Birds Eye and Finches.

LISTINGS CANCELLED

Brown Muff 5 per cent preference (over 34 per cent is held by House of Fraser), New Hibberdy inv ordinary and preference. That inv trust warrants to subscribe for ordinary and 3 per cent debenture £400,000.

ENTER NOW FOR THE TIMES AWARDS FOR THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT OF A COMPANY'S RESULTS FOR 1977.



The Times Awards for the best advertisement of a company's results have aroused such considerable interest since their introduction in 1974, that the competition is now in its fourth year during 1977.

The categories in which awards will be made are listed alongside.

The conditions of entry remain unchanged.

The Awards

The awards follow the 1976 pattern, namely:
a) The Grand Prix, to be held for one year, awarded to the entrant whose advertisement is, in the opinion of the judges, the best submitted, irrespective of category. The Grand Prix consists of a silver trophy, specially designed for The Times by Gordon Hodgson.

b) First, second and third prizes for category winners. Awards will be made both to the winning advertiser and agent.

The Panel of Judges

The Awards are made by an independent panel of judges, selected for their understanding of this specialised form of communication.

They judge entries in accordance with the following criteria. An advertisement of a company's results, whether the Chairman's statement is or is not included in full or in abridged form, should:

- Attract the eye, by virtue of its design.
- Be easy to read, by the use of skilful typography.
- Contain such information as prospective investors or professional advisers are likely to require, including details of the business carried on by the company.
- Include, at the option of the advertiser, such illustrations, graphs, or diagrams as may be necessary to supplement (c) above.
- Leave the reader with the impression that the company concerned would be a good one to do business with, to work for, or to invest in.

Note: In the case of the categories 'Interim Results' or 'Preliminary Figures', only criteria (a) to (d) will apply.

Conditions of Entry

All entries are free, but must have appeared in the pages of The Times Business News during 1977.

The following are the categories in which awards will be made:

- Annual Results.
 - Colour or Black and White. Half page or larger, or equivalent.
 - Colour or Black and White. Less than half page or equivalent.
- Interim Results or Preliminary Figures. Colour or Black and White (All sizes).

The Judges will have the option of making, at their absolute discretion, special awards for the following:
*The best advertisement by an overseas company.
*The best advertisement smaller than 20cms x 4 cols.
*The advertisement which makes the most significant contribution to new and imaginative thinking in financial advertising (without necessarily satisfying all the criteria for the Grand Prix or Category Winners.)

Entries will be accepted throughout the twelve month period January 1st - December 31st 1977, and should take the form of art pulls mounted on board, with a clear indication of the category in which they are to be judged. Six unmounted art pulls should also be provided for the use of the Award Judges. They should be sent to:

Michael Mander, Deputy Chief Executive and Marketing Director, The Times Awards, The Times, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Tel: 01-8371234.

Presentation of the awards will be made early in 1978.

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

No impetus at start of account

It was back to reality at the start of the new account after Friday's short-lived rally. With little to counter the growing union antagonism to the 10 per cent guideline on pay and disappointment at last

Dealers expect interim profits from Carless Capital to be up from £1.25m to £1.5m when the group reports on Friday. The naphtha price is currently very firm, giving a boost to the shipping side while North Sea black oil is said to be progressing well. The shares trade at c.1p.

Week's batch of company profits equities drifted through lack of support.

Dealers also said that with the institutions having to find up to £300m over the next few days for the Treasury 10 per cent 1997 stock they expect little action for the time being.

Gilts edged ahead one quarter or so in early trading, but interest rates worries brought small selling and by the close most stocks were showing net falls of around one-eighth on the day.

The FT Index closed 1.5 off at 464.5 having been 3.9 down at 2 pm its low point of the day.

A chart "sell" recommendation lowered Beecham to a close of 610.4, while elsewhere among the leaders Glass last 3p to 580p, Pilkington 5p to 470p, Fisons 3p to 372p and BAT Industries 2p to 258p.

On terms from private interests Lennon Brothers were marked up from 77p to 460p, the shares having last been dealt in 18 months ago. Kode International, mentioned here last week as a takeover possibility, received fresh speculative support to close 5p to the good at 52p while Centrawest rose another 10p to 214p after last week's capitalisation plans.

Late news of bid talks hoisted G. Dew 27p to 122p while the terms from BICC lifted Colson Brothers 4p to 51p. British Investment Trust was unmoved at 154p after news of the guaranteed cash price of 165p from Black Diamond Pensions.

On the papers pitch Reed Group held steady at 119p in

spite of the continuing troubles at the "Daily Mirror" while the shares of West Country-based paper manufacturer Reed & Smith, where the National Enterprise Board has a 30 per cent stake, were suspended at 35p "pending the outcome of discussions."

In breweries and distilleries Matthew Brown were unmoved at 90p after figures but continued speculative demand helped Glenlivet to rise 15p to 460p, Highland Distillers 5p to 115p and Tomatin 3p to 86p.

Adverse comment lowered Belem 4p to 60p but the shares rallied to 62p, a net loss of 2p on the day. Nervousness ahead of this week's figures hit Recal to the tune of 11p to 203p while Restar was also down on comment, by 5p to 107p. But those going the other way for the reverse reason were John Brown, 4p to 237p and Blackwood Lodge 3p to 79p.

Senior profits United Stag Line 5p to 110p in the shipping sector where the speculative Hunting Gibsons dropped 10p to 230p. Two to make a balanced response to last week's figures were J. Dykes, down 5p to 22p after the loss and dividend omission, and Pauls & Whites which gained 5p to 95p.

The best of properties was MFC, up 5p to 109p ahead of figures this week. Best rate in-

creases made little impact on the clearing banks the only one to move being Lloyds which ended a couple of points ahead at 270p. The possible loss of Polish orders lowered Swan Hunter a penny to 150p but another shipbuilder Vickers was a strong market closer 5p up to 267p.

Amalgamated Power Engineering shares have behaved like most others. They fell 8p last week and just 1p yesterday to 117p. Yet after making a one for three rights issue at 70p earlier this year, it reported more than doubled interim profits last month, and profits this full year should go up from £3.39m to around £7m. From time to time hopeful gossip about Babcock & Wilcox, Hawker Siddeley or Americans showing interest.

Equity turnover on November 25 was £82.83m (16,111 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were Beecham, ICI, Racal, Dykes, BP partly paid, National Westminster Bank, Shell, BP, BAT Dfd, EMI, Marks & Spencer, Midland Bank, Unilever, Royal Insurance, Tescam, Siebens Oil and Kode International.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Pl	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Reid (I)	0.45(0.45)	0.08(0.10)	0.04(0.05)	0.4(0.5)	19/1	(1.5)
Brady (I)	8.5(7.8)	0.06(0.12)	0.7(3.4)	1.75(1.75)	19/1	(5.6)
M. Brown (F)	17.2(15.6)	3.1(2.6)	9.04(8.94)	2.22(2.6)	—	3.92(3.51)
Chambers (I)	1.2(0.5)	3.0(1.7)	3.0(1.7)	0.9(0.4)	5/1	(0.7)
J. Cropper (I)	2.4(3.6)	0.05(0.01)	—	—	—	(0.7)
J. H. Fenner (F)	73.0(62.2)	8.4(7.0)	14.16(11.57)	3.95(3.5)	—	6.7(6.0)
Field Bros (I)	5.3(4.1)	0.2(0.14)	—	—	—	(0.74)
Edward Jones (I)	—	0.05(0.05)	—	—	—	(0.81)
Lectra Cym (I)	—	—	—	2.04(1.6)	3/1	4.3a(3.9)
L. & M. Ind (I)	9.0(7.1)	0.85(0.65)	5.9(4.5)	1.9(1.7)	20/1	4.7a(4.3)
Marshall (I)	11.6(9.7)	1.0(0.8)	0.7(3.4)	1.75(1.75)	19/1	(5.2)
Nordichart I.E. (F)	—	0.23(0.1)	0.23(0.1)	2.1(1.68)	—	5(4)
Prop Inv & F (I)	1.0(1.5)	0.48(0.12)	—	1.5(1.0)	6/1	(1.4)
Stag Line (F)	2.8(3.2)	0.63(0.21)	—	7.6(5.86)	—	11.4(10.36)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Wherever in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividends by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. A forecast.

NatWest steps up international factoring stake

National Westminster is strengthening its position in the international factoring business. The bank announced yesterday that Credit Lyonnais had taken a 35 per cent stake in its French factoring subsidiary, Credit Factoring International SA.

Credit Factoring International already has a slice of the French domestic and export factoring market.

Factoring, a financial service for industry that broadly speaking looks after the sales accounting and credit management function, is growing rapidly albeit from small beginnings especially overseas.

Reduced borrowings help Matthew Brown

By Alison Mitchell

Blackburn-based brewery group Matthew Brown had some of the glass knocked off full time figures by the indifferent summer. A half-time profits increase of 28 per cent was whittled down to around 19 per cent by year end.

In the 12 months to October 1 last the group made a pre-tax profit of £2.1m against a previous £2.6m or turnover up from £15.7m to £17.3m. However at the trading level, the profits increase is reduced to 13 per cent.

The financial boost has come from a decrease in finance charges and a larger profit on the disposal of properties.

Last year's £1.4m rights issue, used partly to finance an expansion programme, cost £1.1m, substantially and interest in the period fell from a previous £195,000 to £21,000. Mr C. Alnough, chairman, reports that

the cash flow is good and the group will have cash in the bank again in the current year.

An ongoing policy of public rationalisation has seen the disposal of some overlapping sites and this contributed a further £27,000 compared with last year's £26,000.

In volume terms sales rose by 2 per cent, compared to a national decline, and this was split between the larger and beer. Last year's charge of £507,000 around 16 per cent of output, though the new brand being marketed by the group, Slalom, has shown a sizeable increase.

Second half margins benefited from a price increase in April. Since then there has been no further rise though the chairman expects prices going up again. Since the end of the year, trading has shown an increase over the same period last year and he admits to being "quite cheerful" about prospects.

Now Trust & Agency being wooed

By Tony May

The latest group to catch the eye of portfolio hunters is Trust & Agency of Australasia. It has received an approach which could lead to an offer from an unnamed party. The shares were suspended at 145p, valuing the group at £11.6m.

The group, in which Commercial Union has a stake of just over 32 per cent, is an investment trust but does not qualify as such under the relevant Act.

Earlier this year the board, headed by Mr C. Michael Hughes, tried to win shareholders' approval for a scheme of arrangement which would have turned the group into an approved investment trust with its attendant tax advantages. However, the meeting was adjourned so that the terms could be reconsidered.

It seems that "certain preference stockholders" opposed the deal.

Marshall's ahead thanks to concrete

By Ashley Druker

Dampened in 1976-77 by the unusually wet winter, Marshall's (Halifax) still remained on a growth track as shown in the opening figures for the half to end-September. This year's concrete product manufacturer, pre-tax profits up 8 per cent to £1.07m on turnover some 20 per cent higher at £11.6m. But a higher tax charge of £507,000 against £492,000 holds the net at a same-again £499,000. The interim is also unchanged at 1.5p gross.

The concrete side went particularly well with a 24 per cent increase in sales opportunities, says Mr David R. Marshall, chairman. He attributes this to the fruits of a consistent policy of investment in new plant and manufacturing techniques. But profits for engineering were disappointing, and results from South Africa "poor".

Business appointments

Board changes at British Printing Corporation

Mr Roy Hodgson has joined the board of British Printing Corporation as personnel director. Mr Clive Bradley, chairman and chief executive of Sun Printers, will assume additional responsibility as chairman of the commercial printing group. He remains executive chairman of Sun Printers, but Mr Bob Phillips has been promoted to managing director. Mr Derek Mangon, chief executive of the commercial printing group, is leaving the corporation.

Mr Lyn McNelly is to be chief executive of United Medical Company International, the company formed by the National Enterprise Board and Allied Investments. It is a reorganisation of AB Electronic Components, which has been renamed AB Electronic Products. Mr Henry Kroch has been named deputy chairman and chief executive of the parent group and executive chairman of three sub-groups. Mr Ken Brown becomes managing director of AB Electronic Components and Mr Douglas Maplebeck managing director of AB Instrumentation. Mr Riba Hassan, AB's company secretary, becomes director of the United Kingdom sub-groups. Group chairman is Mr George Cantlay.

Fenner tops £8m but growth rate now likely to slow

By Victor Felstead

Record figures for the fifth year running are turned in by J. H. Fenner, the group who makes power transmission, equipment, industrial conveyor belting, fluid seals and package handling conveyors.

On turnover just over 17 per cent greater at £73m in the year to September 3, pre-tax profits were ahead by 20 per cent to a peak £8.4m. This is only slightly below the previous year's growth rate. This growth rate is in the background of the problems facing industry—including the rise in sterling—and the rise in interest charges from £510,000 to £1,090m while associates' profits slipped from £187,000 to £143,000.

With earnings per share up from 11.57p to 14.16p, the total gross dividend rises from 9.23p to 10.15p. Working on a pre-tax basis, the year's figures show that margins, in fact, expanded from 11.25 to 11.5 per cent.

The year's results are above most market expectations, the shares closed at an unchanged 124p. This is because of the outlook for the current year. The order by industry, both at home and overseas, of capital goods is likely to slow down. With fewer orders, Fenner would find it difficult to maintain its growth rate. The board is not making a forecast for the current year "having regard to renewed doubts about a sustained world-wide recovery of industrial activity."

But it does report that the year has begun quietly, with a satisfactory workload and a stable order level. The board has planned for a further growth in turnover and profitability and believes that the group is well equipped, in both



Mr J. H. Fenner, chairman of J. H. Fenner.

manufacturing facilities and staff, to achieve success. The shares are probably at their peak for the time being. At their present level of 124p, they are languishing a full 18p below their 1976-77 "high" of 142p. Considering the United Kingdom economic outlook and that for the engineering sector in particular, the shares could fall several pence further.

As far as the overseas side was concerned during the year, the board explains that the unsatisfactory conditions in the United States continued throughout the 12 months. Fenner's conveyor belting manufacturing offshoot in America lost almost £600,000. By reason of the capital structure, this loss is immediately available for tax set-off against profits in the United Kingdom. The United States company's performance was envisaged early in the year and was shared with other major conveyor belting manufacturers in the United States because of a sluggish demand from a depressed coal mining industry and fierce competition for the low volume of business available.

Stothert & Pitt Limited

The following are extracts from the circulated Statement of the Chairman, Sir Ralph Batesman, K.B.E., on the accounts for the year ended 2nd July, 1977.

Results
Trading for the 52 weeks to 2 July 1977 has resulted in further success. Our total turnover advanced from £18,589,000 last year to £23,813,000 in 1976/77 and our exports achieved the new record figure of £14,851,000, accounting for 62% of total company turnover, compared with 47% last year.

Profits before taxation at £933,000, compare with £633,000 last year. We can be justly pleased with this result, which has been brought about by the effort and co-operation of employees at all levels, to all of whom the board is grateful.

After a tax charge of £492,000 (£370,000) and a credit of £96,000 (£10,000) for extraordinary items, there remains a profit after tax of £538,000 (£273,000). The greater part of the tax charge is deferred to stock relief and capital allowances and tax actually payable (including advance corporation tax on the 1976/77 dividends) is £148,000.

Your directors are recommending a final dividend of 7.4052p per share (6.63p) making a total for the year of 9.5502p per share (8.58p) leaving £344,000 (£28,000) to transfer to reserves. This is the maximum dividend permissible under current dividend control.

Liquidity
Improvements in cash flow achieved during the year have resulted in a reduction of £4.3 million in net bank borrowing at 2 July 1977, compared with the position at the end of the previous financial year.

Capital Expenditure Programme
The company is committed to a substantial investment programme designed to improve its manufacturing facilities, and this involves heavy expenditure both on new machine tools and relocation of activities. In 1976/77 we spent £570,000 on this programme.

In the current financial year we expect to spend a further £1 million. This capital expenditure programme is directed towards reducing our operating costs and improving our overall company performance so that we are able to remain competitive, both at home and in the export markets from which so much of our business must now be sought.

Cranes and Deck Machinery
In the export field the creditable production performance on the Saudi Arabian dockside crane contract reported last year was maintained, with the result that all shipments to Dammam and Jeddah were completed to programme. Erection is proceeding as rapidly as site conditions permit.

Manufacture of the splitlift for Dammam began during the year and progress is in line with our expectations.

Other activities included crane deliveries to Poland,

Boulton

Chairman Mr Denis Fahey reports

- Group turnover increased to over £18m.
- Exports again increased.
- Maximum permitted dividend proposed.

Summary of results

	1977	1976	1975	1974
Turnover	£000	£000	£000	£000
	18,050	17,162	16,127	13,448
Profit before tax	1,037	1,134	1,014	801
Profit after tax	1,007	551	444	386
Dividends	355	281	192	180
Net assets	5,614	4,872	3,868	3,560
Earnings per 10p share	3.8p	2.9p	2.4p	2.1p

Copies of the 1977 Annual Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, The William Boulton Group Limited, Providence House, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent.

The William Boulton Group

FENNER ANNOUNCES RECORD RESULTS.

- Turnover up by 17% to £73m
- Group pre-tax profit increased by 20%
- Earnings per share up from 11.57p to 14.16p
- Capital expenditure £3.3m
- Final Dividend increased to 3.95p per share

Extract from Chairman's Statement

"We have planned for further growth in turnover and profitability and we are well equipped, both in manufacturing facilities and people, to achieve success."

	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973
External turnover	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
	73,009	62,235	50,774	37,940	27,268
Profit before taxation	8,407	7,006	5,752	4,501	3,242
Profit after taxation	3,457	2,806	2,572	1,951	1,732
Earnings for ordinary shareholders	*3,071	2,389	2,302	1,773	1,557
Dividends to ordinary shareholders	1,453	1,301	834	745	458
Retained profits	1,778	1,088	1,468	1,028	1,101
Shareholders' funds	25,892	24,184	17,564	15,338	11,330
Earnings per share (pence)	14.16p	11.57p	13.11p	10.82p	10.72p

* Excluding extraordinary credit of £160,000

To: The Secretary, J. H. Fenner & Co. (Holdings) Ltd., Marlfoot, Hull HU8 5RA. Please send me a copy of the Report and Accounts of the Group for 1977 on publication.

Name _____
Address _____
Fenner

The Fenner Group is principally concerned with the manufacture of power transmission equipment, industrial conveyor belting, fluid seals and package handling conveyors.

Handwritten note: 10p, 15p, 20p

ession

Handwritten note: 10p, 15p, 20p

Handwritten note: 10p, 15p, 20p

for G Day Smith



Nat West announces that with effect from Tuesday, 29th November, 1977, its Base Rate is increased from 6% to 7½ per annum. The basic Deposit and Savings Account rates will be increased from 3% to 4% per annum.



Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate for lending will be increased from 6% to 7½ per annum for balances in their books on and after 29th November, 1977 and until further notice. The Deposit Rate on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal will increase from 3% to 4% per annum.

MARKET REPORTS

Eurobond prices

mid (day indicators)

US STRAIGHTS (\$)

Australia 7 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 8 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 9 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 10 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 11 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 12 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 13 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 14 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 15 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 16 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 17 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 18 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 19 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
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Australia 22 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 23 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 24 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 25 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 26 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 27 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 28 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 29 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 30 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 31 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 32 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 33 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 34 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 35 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 36 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 37 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
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Australia 39 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
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Australia 96 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 97 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 98 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 99 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00
Australia 100 1/2 1984	100.00	100.00

Soviet grain harvest shortfall is causing red faces in the US

By a Special Correspondent

A keen watch is being kept on Soviet purchases after the revelation that this year's harvest in the Soviet Union is 10 per cent lower than was estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture. Mr. Bob Berglund, the United States Agriculture Secretary, predicts that the Soviet Union will buy between 20 million and 25 million tonnes of grain in the West between now and next September.

It is possible that the largest part of its needs have already been covered. The news that bad weather had cut the Soviet harvest to 194 million tonnes came from Mr. Brezhnev, the Soviet Premier, in the midst of the Soviet jubilee celebrations. Many observers believe that he would not have made such an announcement if the bulk of its purchases had not already been contracted.

The secrecy surrounding the grain trade makes this difficult to verify. So far, only sales of a little over four million tonnes have been published. After the Soviet "grain raid" on the United States market in 1972, when massive purchases were made secretly while the American government was financing export incentives, the Congress has endeavoured to improve reporting procedures. A 1973 law stipulates that the USDA must be notified within 24 hours of the signing of any large sales contracts.

A 300,000 tonne sale of corn to the Soviet Union, which came to light last week, illustrates the way trading houses produce to evade this regulation. The companies competing for the Soviet business have an obvious interest in keeping its size quiet until they have secured supplies from the producers. The mere rumour of a big Soviet sale can drive prices of supplies and freight.

Mexico limits export of cocoa beans

Mexico's National Cocoa Commission says that it has so far authorized the export of only 2,000 tonnes of cocoa beans in the November 1977-March 1978 period, compared to 4,893 tonnes exported in the same 1976-77 period in order to ensure adequate domestic supplies. The commission, Conacade, said it estimated that the 1977-78 harvest would come to about 33,000 tonnes, similar to the level recorded in 1975-76, and well above the 24,000 tonnes harvested in 1976-77, when the crop was affected by adverse weather conditions in the Tabasco and Chiapas regions.

Conacade estimate that internal demand in the present cycle would be about 20,000 tonnes. And if forecasts prove correct, more cocoa will be released for export, including 1,000 tonnes contracted with the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile trade sources confirmed that the Chamber of Chocolate Industries, grouping about 40 companies, had protested against any cocoa exports at this time because of a severe domestic shortage. The sources said that Richardson Merrill of the United States was receiving only about 40-50 per cent of the cocoa it requires, and other major companies such as Nestlé and Quaker Oats, were in the same position. The reason for the current shortage is not entirely clear, but the trade believes it is either because official harvest figures were inaccurate, or else because there is a heavy volume of clandestine exports—Reuters.

Commodities

The 300,000 tonnes of corn was at first sold to one of the trading company's European subsidiaries and the USDA was informed that its final destination was unknown.

Only when the transaction was completed was its destination switched from "unknown" to "Soviet Union".

There are, however, other indications of intense Soviet activity on the grain market. Although the Soviet Union has strongly built up the size of its own bulk carrier fleet, it has recently chartered over 30 bulk grain carriers.

If the latest USDA predictions prove correct, the Soviet Union could be buying more grain this season than the 22.5 million tonnes it purchased in 1972. This will not of necessity pull prices out of their present slump.

Expected Soviet wheat imports of eight million tonnes are put into perspective by the current world carryover of wheat stocks of almost 100m tonnes. The USDA predicts that these will be reduced to the still very high level of 85 million tonnes by the end of the 1977-78 season.

Bears abound in the feed grain market with the United States is expecting a record 202 million tonne crop. World stocks should rise nine million tonnes to 80 million by the end of the season. The United States surplus will outweigh falls in production in Australia and Argentina (due to bad weather) and in Canada (due to the rock-bottom prices).

The reduction in plantings, ordered by the USDA, is not likely to have much effect until the end of the season. It is known that the other grain bogey, China, will not be buying in the United States this year.

Prices have recently undergone some modest increases but this could be explained as much by the Canadian-Australian and Argentine crop cuts as by the Soviet requirements. Prices on the Chicago market rose about six cents a bushel on the day Mr. Brezhnev dropped his bombshell but have since remained steady.

The long-term grain agreement signed between the United States and the Soviet Union in 1975 has been accused of the world to a big Soviet presence in the market. Intended to even out the Soviet Union's demands upon American supplies, it placed a 6 million tonne minimum and an 8 million tonne maximum on Soviet grain purchases, which could only be exceeded with the prior authorization of the USDA. Soviet negotiators, however, have managed to raise the ceiling for this year to 15 million tonnes.

The long-term agreement also included provisions for seasonal inspections of the Soviet grain fields by USDA officials, with further exchange of information available upon request. It is this aspect of the agreement that is most likely to be reviewed as a result of the latest Soviet crop failure.

Wall Street

New York, Nov. 28.—Stocks were slightly higher in featureless trading on the New York Stock Exchange today.

Analysts noted that while an apparent lack of pressure on short-term interest rates was a plus, a rise in the Treasury yield curve, a fall in machine tool orders for that month and a conference board prediction of slower United States real gross national product growth next year were all negative factors.

Prices on the New York Stock Exchange were steady. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 1,116.50, up 1.50 points from 1,115.00. The S&P 500 index closed at 111.50, up 0.10 points from 111.40.

Commodities

Grain: Wheat futures were steady. The Chicago Board of Trade wheat futures closed at \$1.16 1/2, up 1/4 cent from \$1.16. The Minneapolis grain futures closed at \$1.16 1/2, up 1/4 cent from \$1.16.

Oil: Crude oil futures were steady. The New York Mercantile Exchange crude oil futures closed at \$12.50, up 1/4 cent from \$12.45.

Metals: Copper futures were steady. The London Metal Exchange copper futures closed at \$1.16, up 1/4 cent from \$1.15. The New York Mercantile Exchange copper futures closed at \$1.16, up 1/4 cent from \$1.15.

Textiles: Cotton futures were steady. The New York Cotton Exchange cotton futures closed at \$1.16, up 1/4 cent from \$1.15.

Grains: Corn futures were steady. The Chicago Board of Trade corn futures closed at \$1.16, up 1/4 cent from \$1.15.

Other commodities: Various other commodities were also trading steadily.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Unit Name	Price	Change	Unit Name	Price	Change
1. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	11. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
2. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	12. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
3. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	13. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
4. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	14. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
5. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	15. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
6. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	16. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
7. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	17. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
8. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	18. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
9. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	19. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
10. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	20. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
21. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	31. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
22. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	32. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
23. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	33. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
24. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	34. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
25. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	35. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
26. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	36. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
27. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	37. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
28. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	38. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
29. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	39. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
30. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	40. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
41. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	51. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
42. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	52. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
43. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	53. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
44. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	54. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
45. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	55. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
46. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	56. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
47. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	57. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
48. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	58. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
49. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	59. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
50. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	60. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
61. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	71. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
62. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	72. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
63. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	73. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
64. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	74. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
65. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	75. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
66. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	76. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
67. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	77. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
68. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	78. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
69. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	79. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
70. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	80. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
81. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	91. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
82. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	92. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
83. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	93. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
84. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	94. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
85. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	95. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
86. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	96. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
87. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	97. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
88. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	98. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
89. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	99. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00
90. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00	100. American Mutual Fund	10.00	0.00

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	6.00
Barclays Bank	6.00
Consolidated Crds	6.00
First London Secs	7.50
C. Hoare & Co	6.00
Lloyds Bank	7.00
London Mercantile	6.00
Midland Bank	6.00
New Westminster	7.50
Rosenstein Acc's	7.50
Shenley Trust	8.00
TSB	8.00
Williams and Glyn's	6.00

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 5% over £20,000, 4.5% over £20,000, 4.5% over £20,000.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Ltd.

1976/77	1977/78	Company	Last Price	Change	Gross Div/Pl	Yld %	P/E
44	27	Airsprung Ord	42	-	4.2	10.1	7.8
150	100	Airsprung 18 1/2 CULS	150	+3	18.4	12.3	-
39	25	Armstrong & Rhodes	37	-	3.3	8.9	15.7
142	105	Bardon Hill	107	-	12.0	8.5	9.7
102	48	Deborah Ord	102	-	5.1	5.0	8.2
216	104	Deborah 17 1/2 CULS	216	+4	17.5	8.1	-
147	120	Frederick Parker	147	+1	11.5	7.8	7.1
118	45	Henry Sykes	106	-	2.4	2.0	10.1
58	36	Jackson Group	50	-	5.0	10.0	8.8
114	55	James Burrough	104xd	-2	6.0	5.8	-
340	188	Robert Jenkins	330	-	27.0	8.2	-
24	8	Twinnock Ord	14	-	12.0	-	-
77	57	Twinnock 12 1/2 ULS	72	-	12.0	10.8	-
65	51	Unlock Holdings	66	+1	7.0	10.6	-
			86		6.4	4.3	-

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

هكذا من الأصل

Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial—Temporary & Part Time Vacancies—

LA CREME DE LA CREME

SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR
OF MARKETING

SALARY c. £23,400 P.A.

The Marketing Division of the English Tourist Board is concerned with the promotion of tourism attractions and facilities, and is looking for a Personal Secretary to assist the Marketing Director in coordinating a Division of 40 London based and 20 regional professional staff. The work involves arranging meetings, preparing agendas and taking minutes, and entails close liaison with a wide range of tourism resort and hotel interests. A first-class secretarial skills, the ability to work at Board level in a friendly and businesslike manner, and a methodical and organised approach to work are essential qualifications for this position. The successful applicant will also be capable of working with the minimum of supervision. Preferable age 25-30.

Excellent conditions of employment including LVs and 4 weeks holiday per annum.

Pleasant working conditions with offices only a few minutes walk from Victoria Station.

For further details please telephone Chris Addison, Personnel Officer, on 01-730 3400, Ext. 282, English Tourist Board, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

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The General Trading Company is looking for two mature and intelligent people to work in their Interior Decorating and Fabrics Department in the New Year.

One person aged between 25 and 40 is required to be deputy head, and assist in buying, and running the department, and at same time have the qualifications and the considerable experience necessary to carry out interior design projects to a high standard.

The second position is for a similarly qualified person aged between 25 and 35 with several years' experience in doing interior design projects and selling fabrics and soft furnishings.

A good salary, incentive commission and agreeable surroundings.

Please write giving your age, qualifications and present earnings to:

David Part,
THE GENERAL TRADING COMPANY,
144 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

Secretary P.A.
INTERNATIONAL CO.

Experienced confidential Secretary with lots of ability, for Chairman of International Company, office in W.1. Must be flexible, have excellent skills, a sound knowledge of export documentation and be able to handle letters. A wide variety of work is involved and for the person who can cope the salary is really excellent. If you've got what it takes ring 01-486 8551.

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are still looking for staff to run their Chalets in Ski resorts this winter. Applicants should be 21-30 with a Conson Bites or similar diploma, and/or practical experience of catering for 8 or more persons. Some jobs starting on 10th December.

Ring or write for an application form to: Supertravel Ltd., 23, St. James Place, London, S.W.1. Tel: 01-589 5164.

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Editorial/Production Assistants—Telephone Sales Executives
Paste-up and General ArtistsAdvertising Personnel 629 0823
Recruitment Consultants 5 Mill Street, Conduit Street, W1 (next to Rolls Royce showrooms)SECRETARY
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

A competent Secretary with Shorthand and Audio skills is required for our Chairman's Office as well as providing for the Chairman a shorthand/audio secretary service, the person will also be required to receive visitors, organise filing and bring forward systems. A pleasant telephone manner is essential. Experience of dealing with all levels of staff and management up to Director level would be an advantage.

Please apply to Miss S. Gilling, Staff and Training Secretary, W. H. Smith & Son Ltd., Strand House, 10 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AD. Telephone 01-353 0277 ext. 3207.

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LONDON W1X 8DA

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£6,000

Experienced bi-lingual secretary 25-35 needed by Senior Director of international company with interests worldwide. Please telephone for interview in London or Paris.

Directors' Secretaries
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We are a small but very busy sales office near Oxford Circus wanting to engage an efficient and energetic P.A./Sec. able to organise us, and to liaise with clients. We are offering £4,000 p.a.

Please telephone
between 5.30-6.30 p.m.
580 4589

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GARDENING
AND GOOD AT SELLING?

The General Trading Company, London's Most Fascinating Shop, is looking for a mature and intelligent person to work full-time in its recently opened Garden Shop which sells Cane Furniture, other garden accessories, books, tools and plants, etc. Monday to Friday and alternate Saturday mornings.

Please write giving your age, qualifications and present earnings to:

DAVID PART,
THE GENERAL TRADING COMPANY,
144 SLOANE STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

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ARTICULATE?

Efficient, intelligent Secretary (25+) required for the office of a leading financial company in the West End.

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Dulwich College
requires aSECRETARY/
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ASSISTANT

This is a responsible position for someone who would enjoy working in a school community. Experience in running a small office desirable. Salary in range £2,500-£3,000 p.a. plus benefits. Hours 8.45 a.m. to 5 p.m., with some Saturday mornings during term time.

Applications in writing, giving details of age, qualifications and experience, with names of three referees as soon as possible to: The Master, Dulwich College, SE21 7LD.

DESIGN CO.

Managing Director of this fast-expanding company is looking for a superb efficient Secretary/P.A. to run the admin. function of the office.

Must be smart and 25+. For immediate interview contact CAREER CARE (Emp. Agt.), 22 Victoria St., S.W.1, 222 0481.

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required for Harley Street Urological and Transplant Surgeon.

Salary around £3,500.

Tel: 01-935 6155.

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material?

I need a high calibre, lively, energetic and confident person in my office. Please write to: Career Care (Emp. Agt.), 22 Victoria St., S.W.1, 222 0481.

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wanted by well-known ad agency. You must be presentable, well-spoken, and above all capable. Knowledge of switchboard helpful. Salary £2,000. For further details ring John Gould or Sue Adams on 01-734 7040.

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friendly receptionist aged 25-35. Must be friendly, efficient, and have a pleasant telephone manner. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For interview and more details ring John Gould or Sue Adams on 01-734 7040.

DIRECT MAIL experience to
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DOCTOR'S Resident Receptionist
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All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

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PART TIME
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SECRETARY/P.A.

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COLLEGE LEAVER or second jobber to join paperback publishers as an editor and sales assistant. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For interview and more details ring John Gould or Sue Adams on 01-734 7040.

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Solicitors

International Business

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Candidates should not be over 29, and, although previous relevant experience would be an advantage, it is not essential since the prime requirements are a practical business-like approach to the legal problems of international business combined with initiative and an ability to work independently. A willingness to travel overseas is essential and the ability to speak another European language is an advantage.

Medico-Legal

Owing to an expansion of the Company's activities in this area we seek one solicitor to augment our Medico-Legal team. The position is for a candidate of between 28 and 30 with at least 3 years' post-admission experience, primarily in litigation. The successful candidate will be expected to concentrate on medico-legal matters and litigation and must be prepared to specialise in this area, so as to be able to make a contribution to the development of Company legal policy on medical aspects of its business. The position involves a certain amount of travel, mainly in the UK.

All the above positions offer considerable challenge and responsibility from the outset. Please write or telephone as soon as possible for an application form, specifying the vacancy in which you are interested to:

Mrs. C. P. Barr, Legal Department,
ICI House, Millbank, London SW1.
Tel: 01-834 4444 ext. 3556/3606

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Butterworth, the legal publishers, have two vacancies for Sub-Editors. The successful candidates will be responsible for the editorial content of the law reports and will be expected to work closely with the Editors. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

Applications in writing, giving full c.v., to:
Christopher Kent, Personnel Department,
BUTTERWORTH & CO. (PUBLISHERS), LTD.,
88 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6AB.

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With a Legal bias

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Lewisham
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Individual community lawyer required to provide a free legal service to the community. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and representation to the community. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

Job Description and application form from Ann Williams,
Lewisham Citizens Advice Bureau,
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December, 1977.

ALANGATE Legal Staff, the specialist consultants to the profession, are looking for a young person to work in the office. This is a very important position and offers a great opportunity for a young person to gain experience and to develop their skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

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Solicitors or
Barristers

Commonwealth Development Corporation is a statutory Corporation engaged in the promotion, financing and management of projects to assist the economic development of overseas countries. Its interests cover a wide variety of projects and involve an investment commitment of approximately £300 million spread over more than 40 countries.

CDC now wishes to reinforce its Legal Department which at present comprises five solicitors. Applications are invited from barristers and solicitors with sound general experience preferably including some company and commercial law. An aptitude for drafting is essential and some experience of building and engineering contracts would be an advantage. The preferred age is around 30 but others with relevant experience will be considered.

The Corporation offers excellent terms and conditions of employment, a first class pension and insurance scheme and the opportunity of occasional travel to Commonwealth countries and elsewhere. Above average ability is sought and an appropriate salary will be offered.

Applicants should write to: Head of Personnel, Commonwealth Development Corporation, 33 Hill Street, London W1A 3AR, quoting Serial 1992.



TWO FOR P.R.

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CALL PEPPA AT
Adventure
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Two young secretaries for a leading advertising agency. The successful candidates will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and representation to the community. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

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FASHION CONSCIOUS?

Young (18-21) bright secretary required to assist an overworked fashion designer. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and representation to the community. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

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PADDINGTON
CHURCHES HOUSING
ASSOCIATION

Temporary Appointment. Meticulous person (perhaps 25-30) with experience in housing management. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and representation to the community. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

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SECURITY FOR
NORMA SKEMP
TEMPS

To join our team you will need to be a security guard. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and representation to the community. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

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DOES WINTER HOLD
GLOOMY PROSPECTS?

Join our team of winter weather experts. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and representation to the community. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

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JAYGAR TEMPS

Are the most sought after tempers in the country. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and representation to the community. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits.

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